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BOSTON NEIGHBORHOOD MAPS

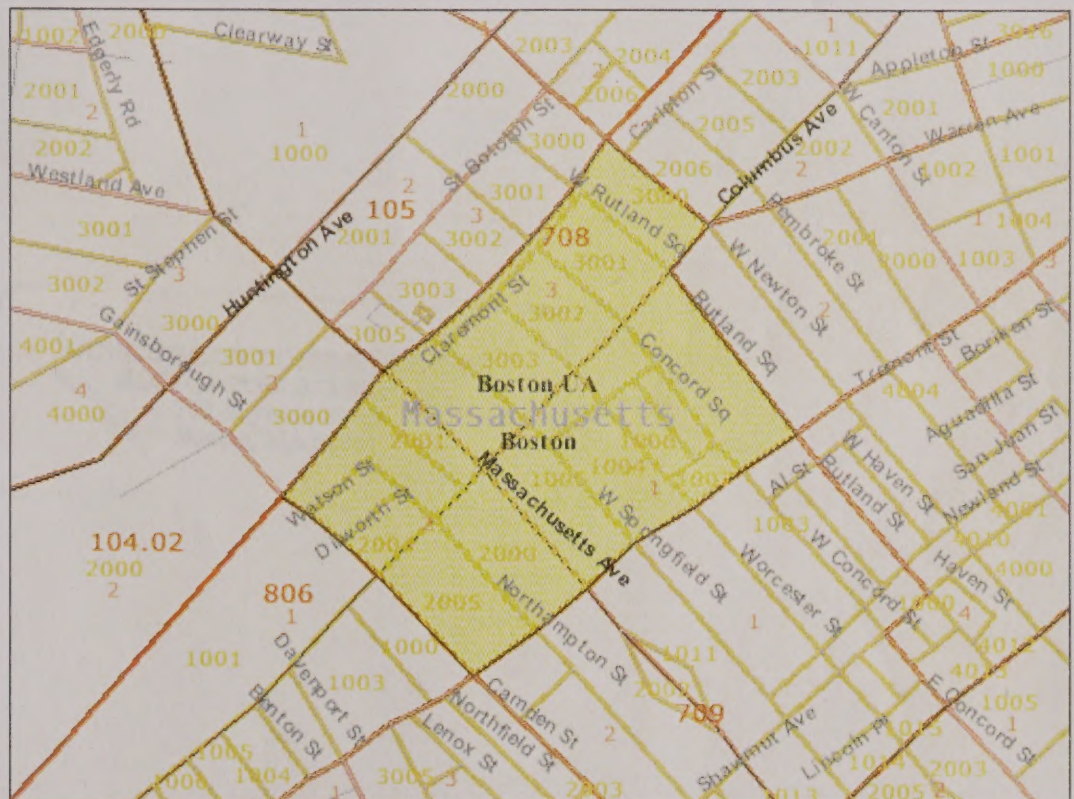
Neighborhood Boundaries, Census Tracts and Block Groups - Census 2000

Boundaries

-  State
-  '00 County
-  '00 Census Tract
-  '00 Block Group
-  '00 Block
-  '00 Place
-  '00 Urban Area
-  '00 Urban Area

Features

-  Major Road
-  Street
-  Stream/Waterbody
-  Stream/Waterbody



THOMAS M. MENINO, *MAYOR*
CITY OF BOSTON

Boston Redevelopment Authority
Mark Maloney, *Director*



Clarence J. Jones, *Chairman*
Consuelo Gonzales Thornell, *Treasurer*
Joseph W. Nigro, Jr., *Co-Vice Chairman*
Michael Taylor, *Co-Vice Chairman*
Christopher J. Supple, *Member*
Harry R. Collings, *Secretary*

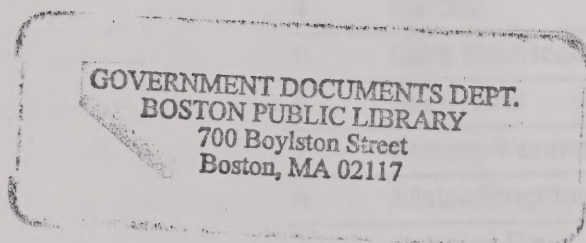
Maps prepared by
Eswaran Selvarajah
February 2005

Research Department
Alvaro Lima, *Director*

BOSTON NEIGHBORHOOD MAPS

Neighborhood Boundaries, Census Tracts and Block Groups - Census 2000

CONTENTS



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Note:

Each Planning District/Neighborhood has the following set of three maps:

- a. Planning District/Neighborhood Map
- b. Year 2000 Census Tracts
- c. Year 2000 Census Tracts and Block Groups

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2	Charlestown
3	South Boston
4	Central
5	Back Bay/Beacon Hill
6	South End
7	Fenway/Kenmore
8	Allston/Brighton
9	Jamaica Plain
10	Roxbury
11	North Dorchester
12	South Dorchester
	Dorchester (Combined North and South)
13	Mattapan
14	Roslindale
15	West Roxbury
16	Hyde Park
17	Harbor Islands
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Cover Map:
Reprinted from
US Census Bureau web site

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Introduction: Census Data and Census Geography

Web-based delivery of census data products by the US Census Bureau has made data easily accessible for planning and development purposes. Users of census data, both researchers and practitioners alike, can extract data for states, counties, towns and cities or other conventional areas such as metro areas or zip code areas for a large number of thematic tables and characteristics from the Census Bureau website, the American FactFinder. Beyond these 'standard' areas, however, to compile data for user-defined areas such as local neighborhoods, redevelopment districts or market territories, users must be familiar with the geographic framework of census data to identify constituent geographic units that best aggregate to areas of their interest. With the website alone, however, data compilation for user-defined geographies is impossible without using reference maps on census geographic framework including identification details. In response to this need for reference maps, this report provides a comprehensive set of maps on the census geography of Boston and its neighborhoods with clear delineation of census boundaries. Each census geographic unit is identifiable by streets and permanent features, and their I.D. numbers.

This report also introduces the reader to the conceptual framework of the basic geographic units: county, census tract, blocks group, and blocks and illustrates their relationship with reference to one of the neighborhoods/planning districts of Boston, the South End. Readers will gain adequate familiarity with the hierarchical and spatial relationships of the census areas and will be able to independently and effectively access the American FactFinder and download the necessary datasets.

For each planning district/neighborhood three sets of maps are included:

- a. Boundary of the neighborhood/planning district
- b. Census Tracts for the planning district
- c. Block Groups for the planning district

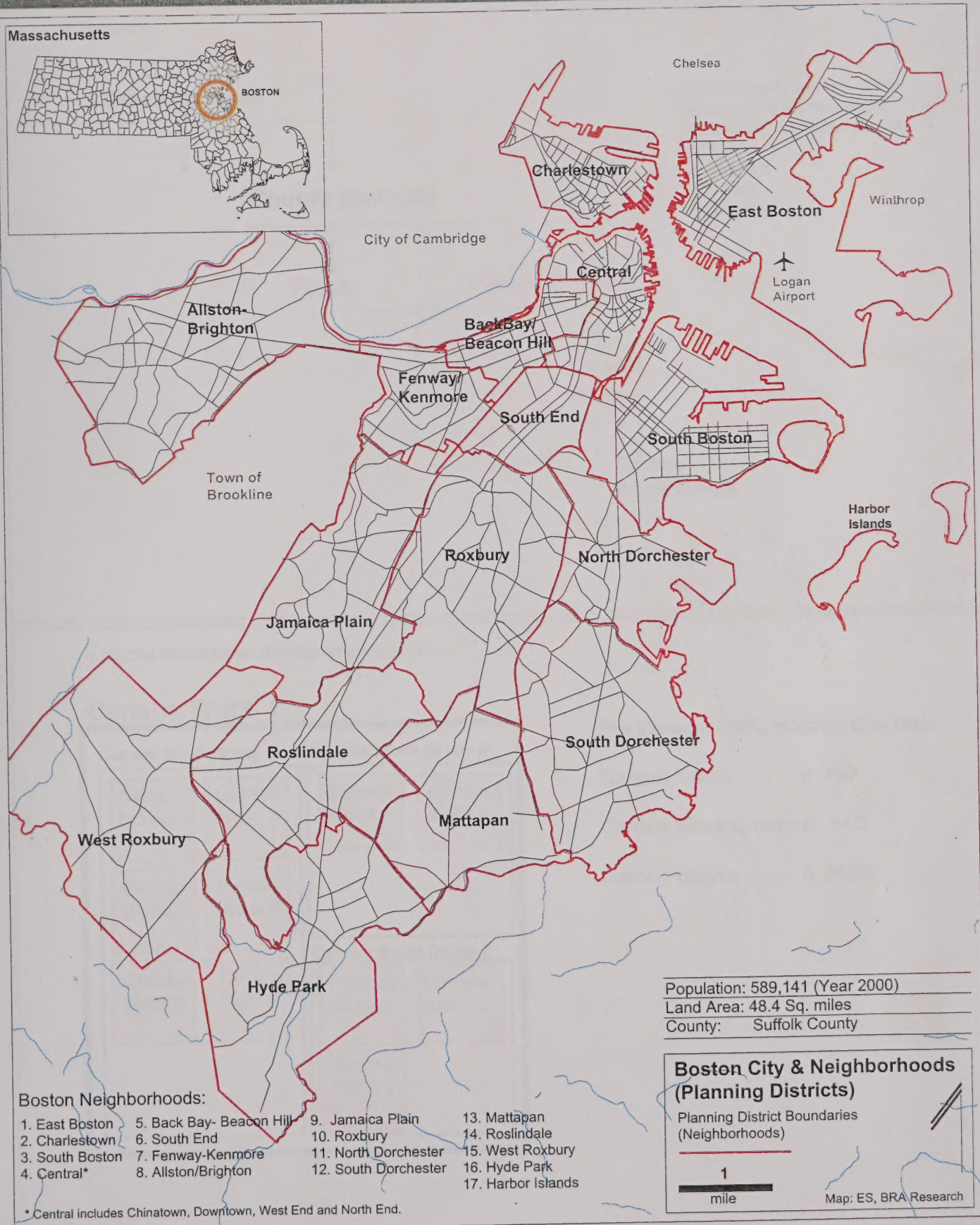
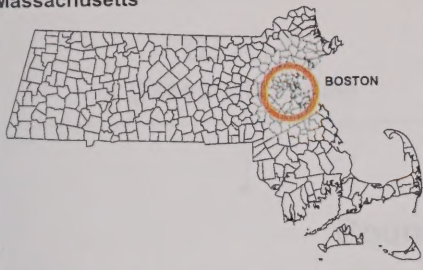
Blocks, the smallest type of the enumeration units used by the US Census, are not included in the maps for two reasons.

- a. They are too numerous in each neighborhood and cannot be included in a letter-size map.
- b. Most of the datasets for frequently asked questions such as income are not available at the block level as they are too small for statistical reliability and pose problems of confidentiality.

Please see Appendix for a description of the above geographic terms and explanatory remarks.

BOSTON CITY AND NEIGHBORHOODS (PLANNING DISTRICTS)

Massachusetts



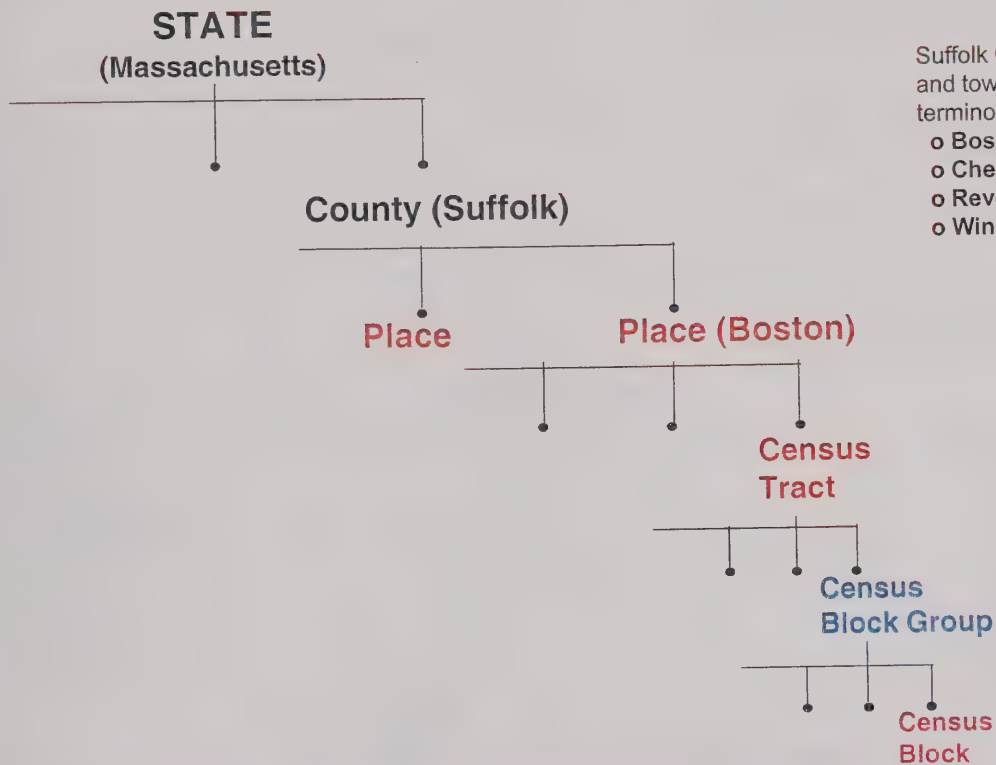
Boston Neighborhoods:

- | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. East Boston | 5. Back Bay- Beacon Hill | 9. Jamaica Plain | 13. Mattapan |
| 2. Charlestown | 6. South End | 10. Roxbury | 14. Roslindale |
| 3. South Boston | 7. Fenway-Kenmore | 11. North Dorchester | 15. West Roxbury |
| 4. Central* | 8. Allston/Brighton | 12. South Dorchester | 16. Hyde Park |
| | | | 17. Harbor Islands |

* Central includes Chinatown, Downtown, West End and North End.

Census Geography and Constituent Sub Units

a. Hierarchy

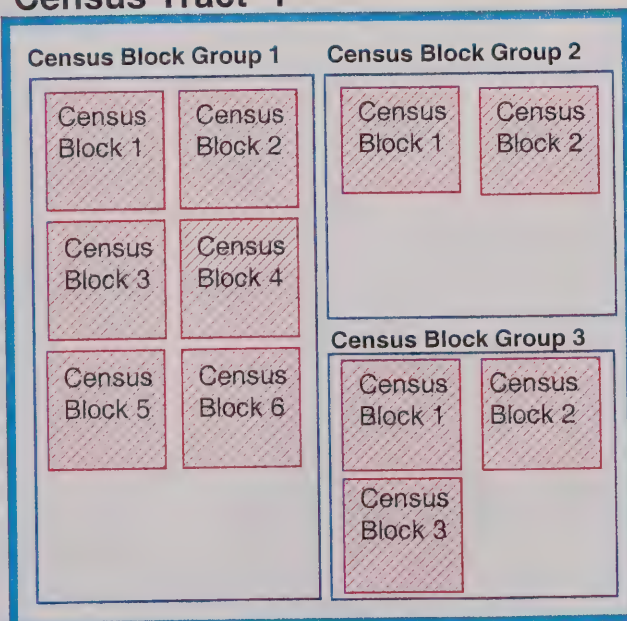


Suffolk County has four cities and towns, which in census terminology, are called places:

- o Boston
- o Chelsea
- o Revere
- o Winthrop

b. Spatial Relationship of Geographic Sub Units

Census Tract 1



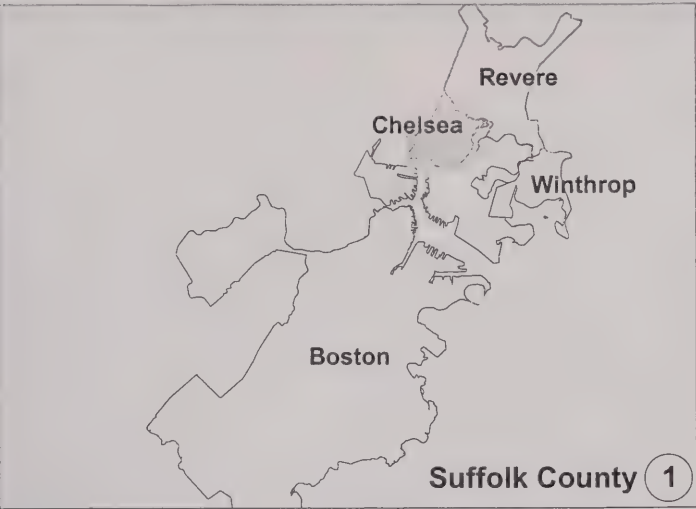
For Census 2000, Boston City has:

Census Tracts o 157

Census Block Groups o 545

Census Blocks o 5630

CENSUS GEOGRAPHY: The South End as an example

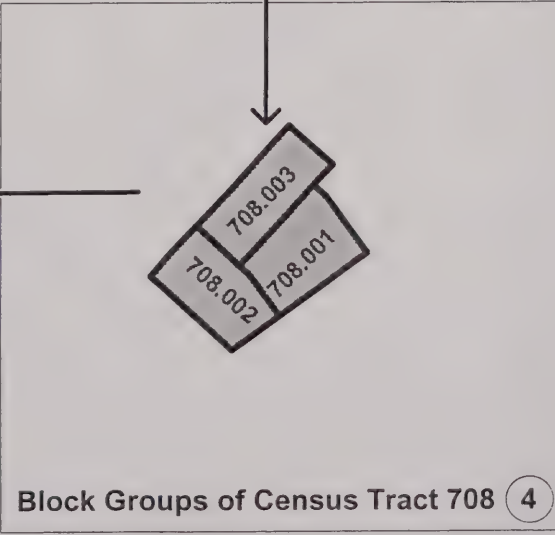
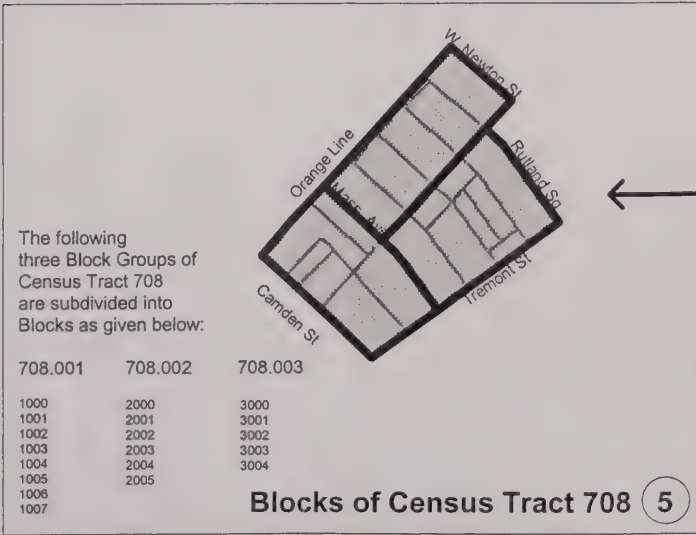
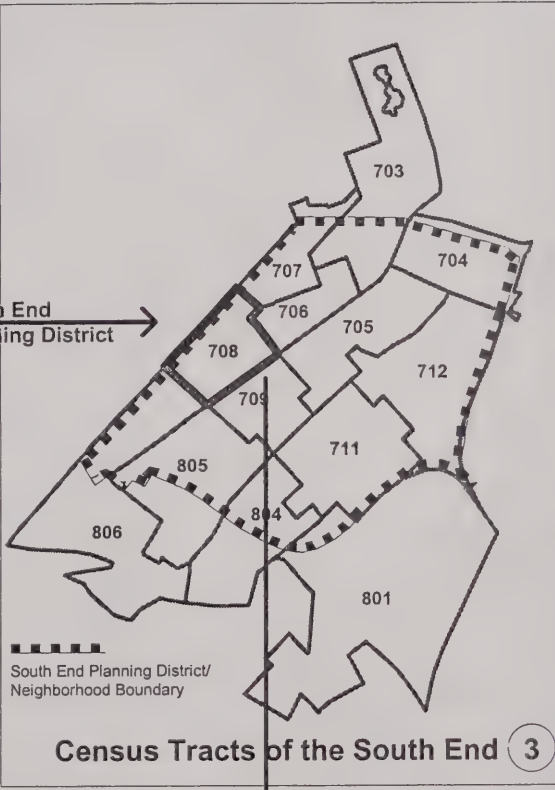
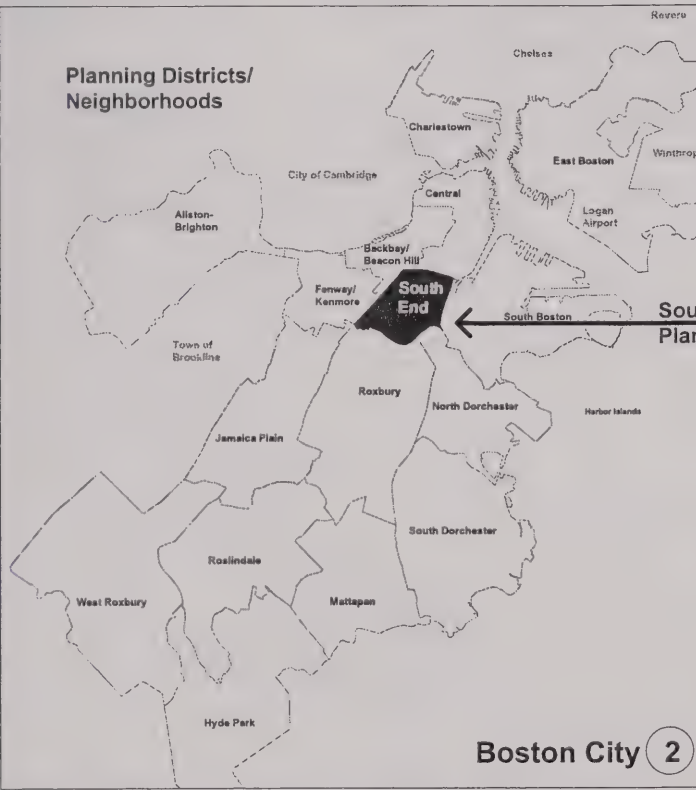


This is an illustration of the hierarchical structure of census geography beginning from a county, the Suffolk County, down to Blocks in the South End Planning District.

Compilation of census data for any area requires that boundaries of constituent census units such as tracts or block groups and their ID #s be familiarized.

The number of Block groups in a Census Tract or the number of Blocks in a Block Group varies.

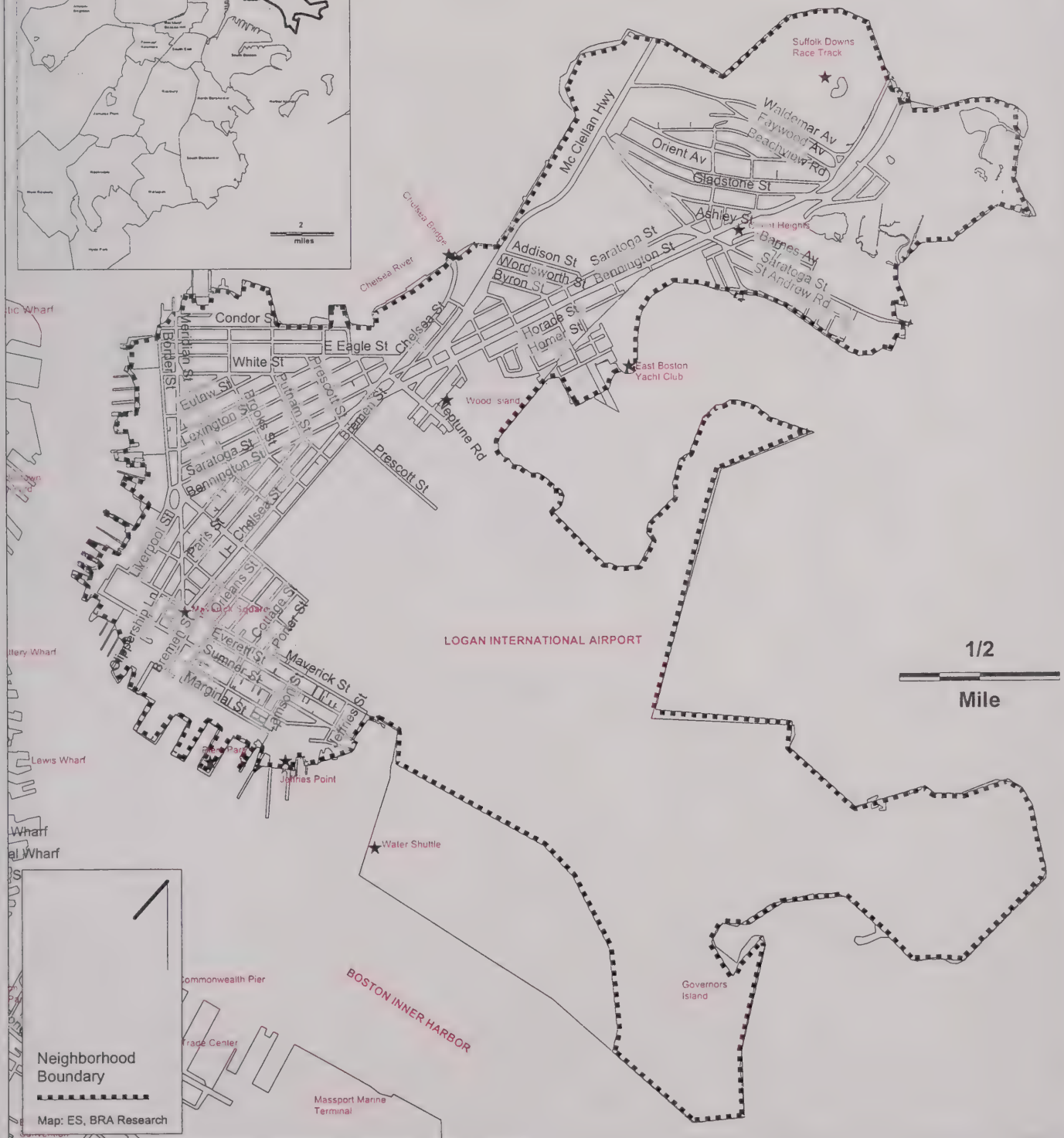
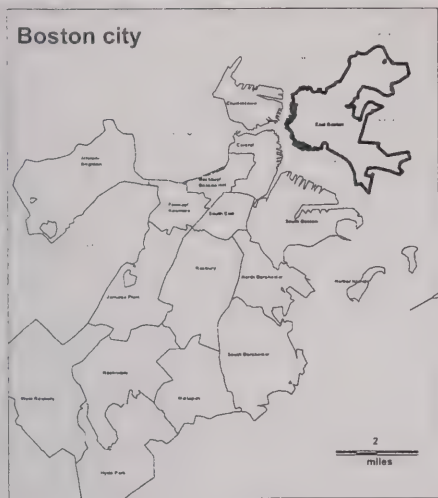
Note that neighborhood boundaries have some of the Tracts straddling across, as are the Block Groups.



EAST BOSTON Planning District/Neighborhood Map

EAST BOSTON Planning District/Neighborhood Map

A map of Boston city and surrounding areas. The map shows the city's layout with various districts and landmarks. Key areas labeled include Boston Harbor, East Boston, North Boston, South Boston, Downtown Crossing, North End, South End, and various districts like Downtown Crossing, North End, and South End. A scale bar indicates 2 miles.



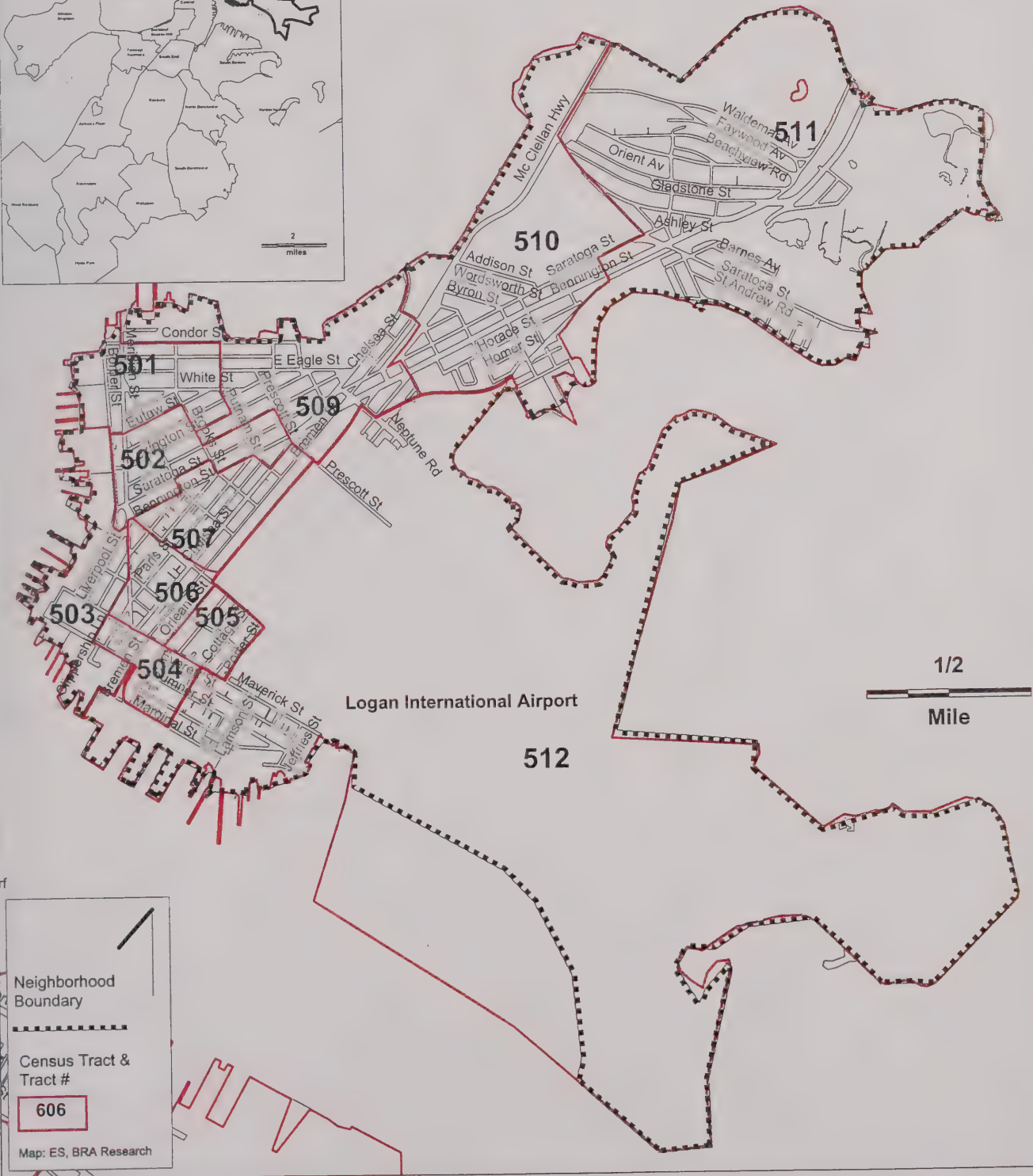
Mile

Mile

Neighborhood
Boundary

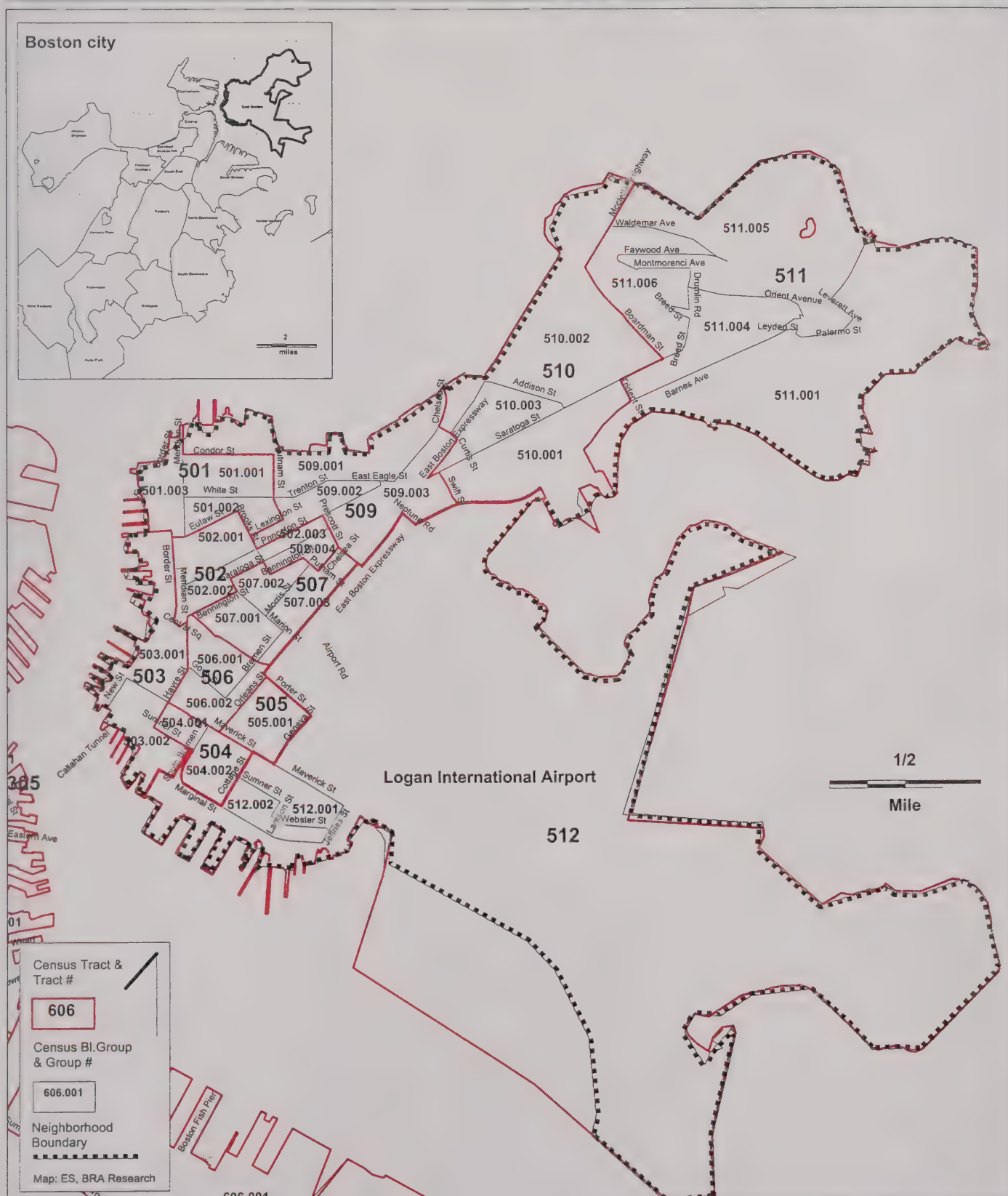
Map: ES, BRA Research

Boston city



EAST BOSTON

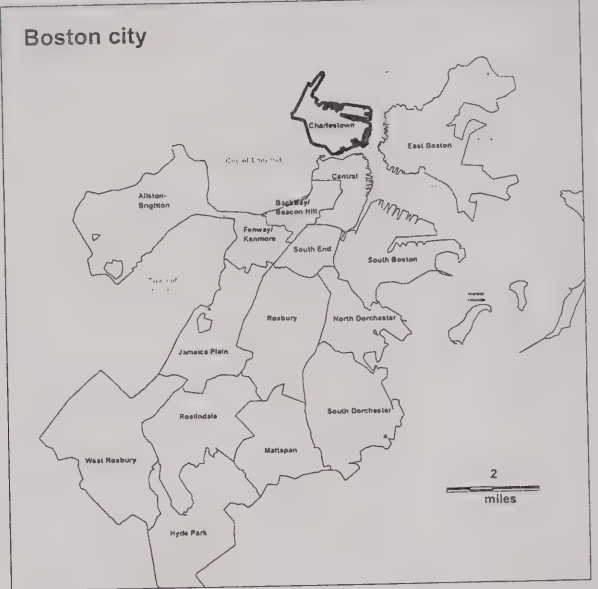
Year 2000 Census Tracts & Block Groups



CHARLESTOWN

Planning District/Neighborhood Map

Boston city



CHARLESTOWN

Year 2000 Census Tracts

Boston city



CHARLESTOWN

Year 2000 Census Tracts & Block Groups

Boston city



Planning District/Neighborhood Map



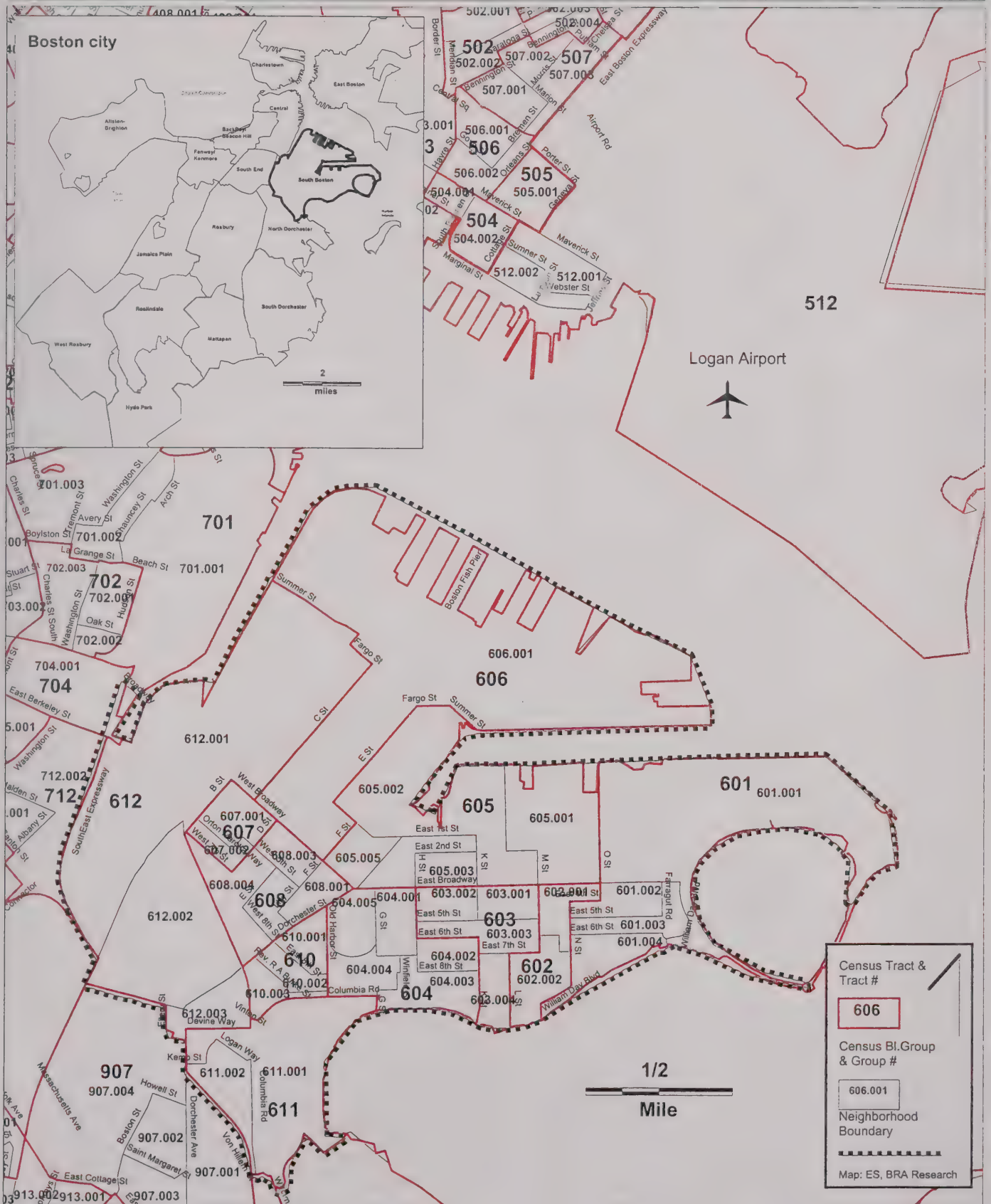
SOUTH BOSTON

Year 2000 Census Tracts



SOUTH BOSTON

Year 2000 Census Tracts & Block Groups



CENTRAL

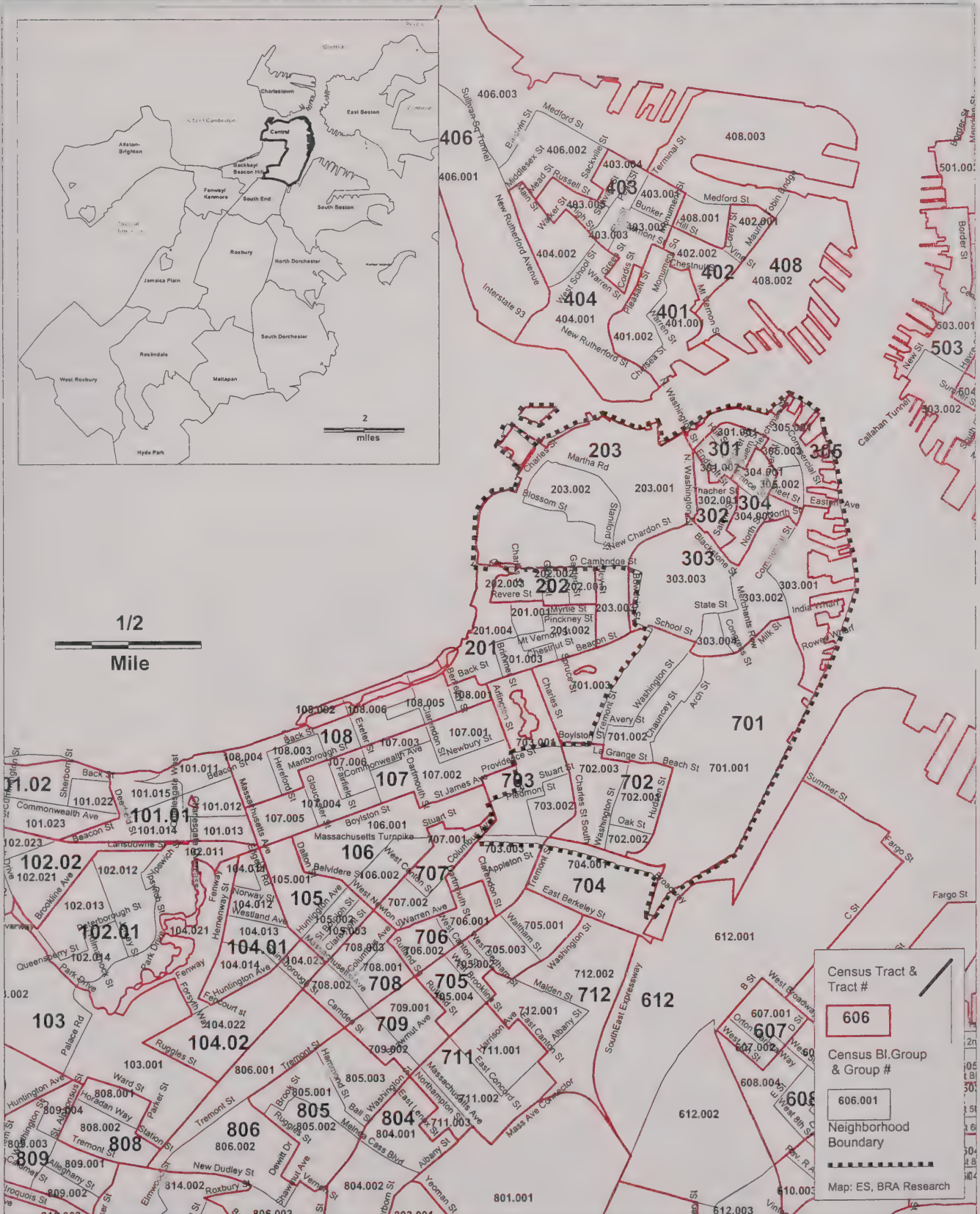
Planning District/Neighborhood Map





CENTRAL

Year 2000 Census Tracts & Block Groups



BACK BAY - BEACON HILL

Planning District/Neighborhood Map



BACK BAY - BEACON HILL

Year 2000 Census Tracts



Year 2000 Census Tracts & Block Groups



SOUTH END

Planning District/Neighborhood Map



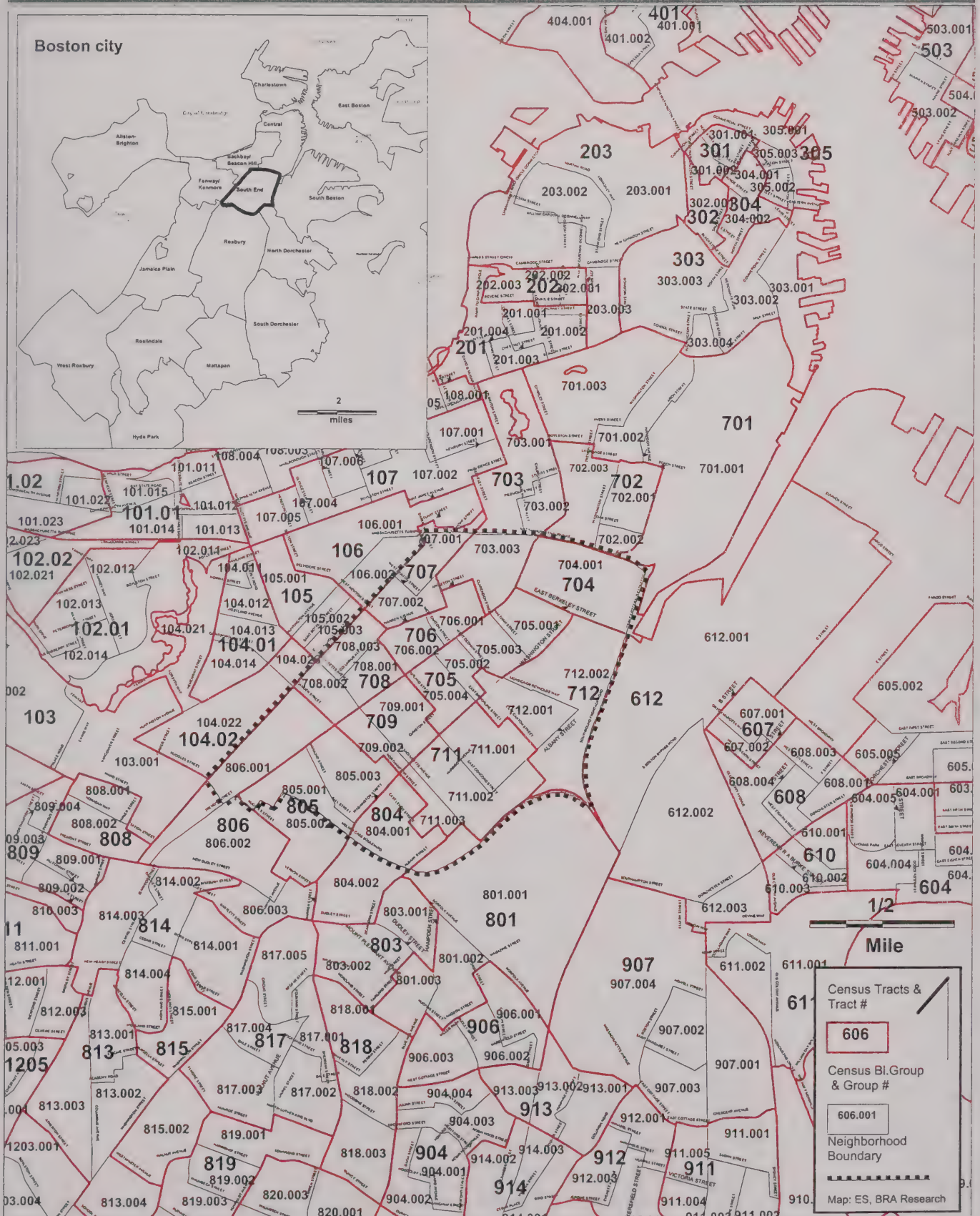
SOUTH END

Year 2000 Census Tracts



SOUTH END

Year 2000 Census Tracts & Block Groups



Planning District/Neighborhood Map



FENWAY - KENMORE

Year 2000 Census Tracts



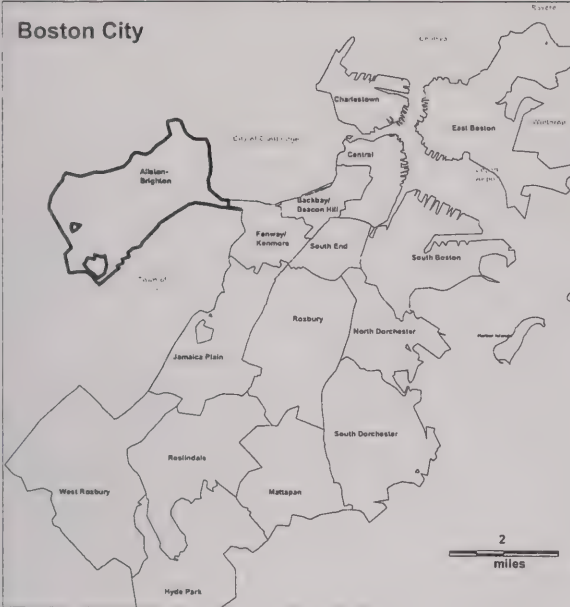
Year 2000 Census Tracts & Block Groups



ALLSTON - BRIGHTON

Planning District/Neighborhood Map

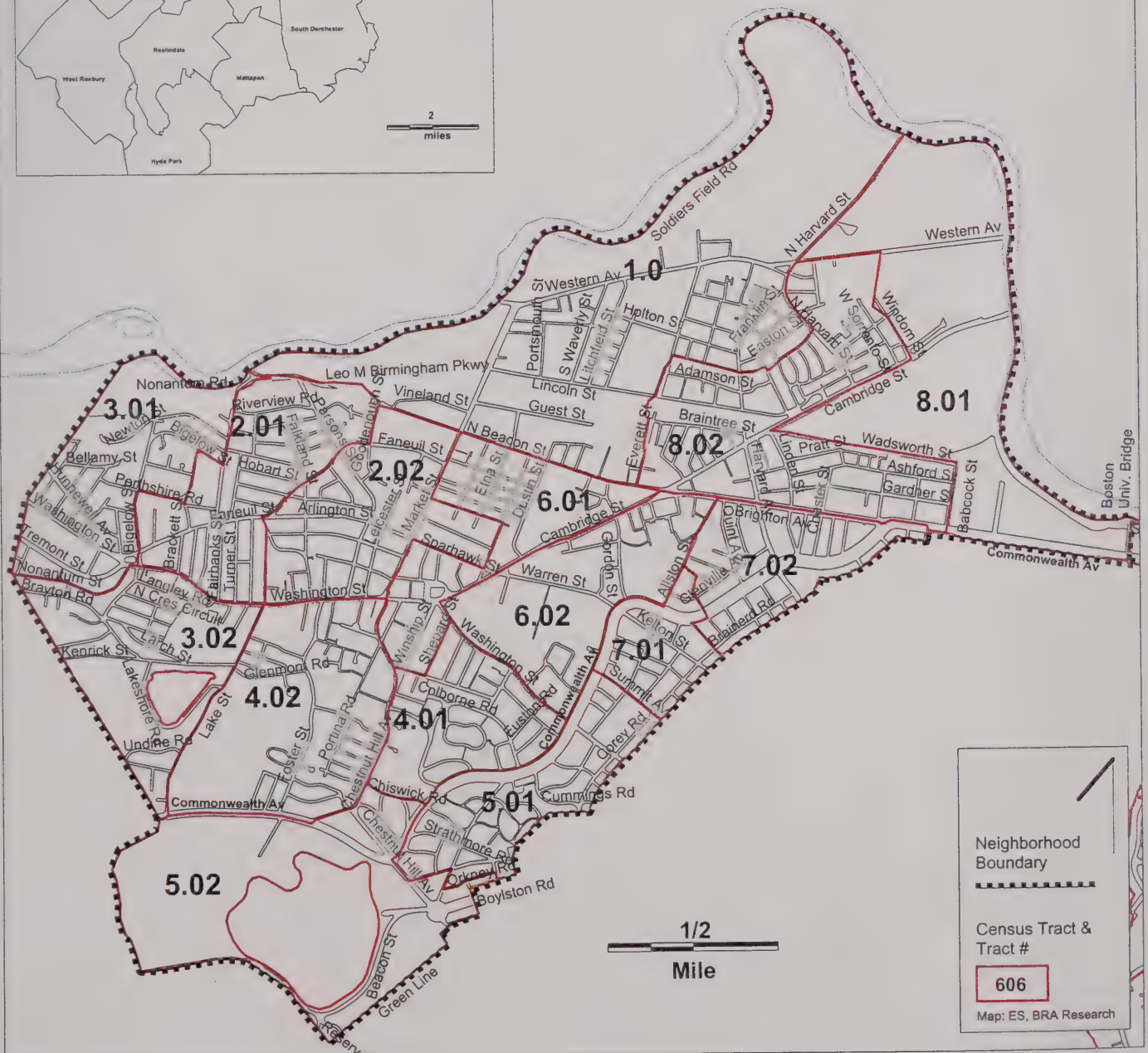
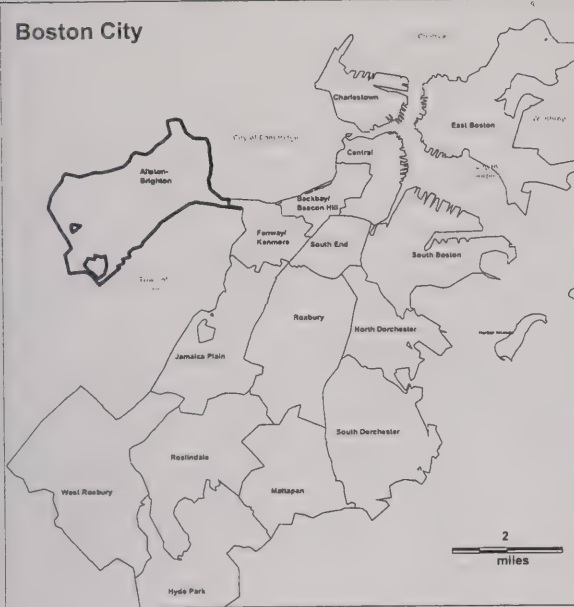
Boston City



ALLSTON - BRIGHTON

Year 2000 Census Tracts

Boston City



Year 2000 Census Tracts & Block Groups



JAMAICA PLAIN

Planning District/Neighborhood Map

Boston City

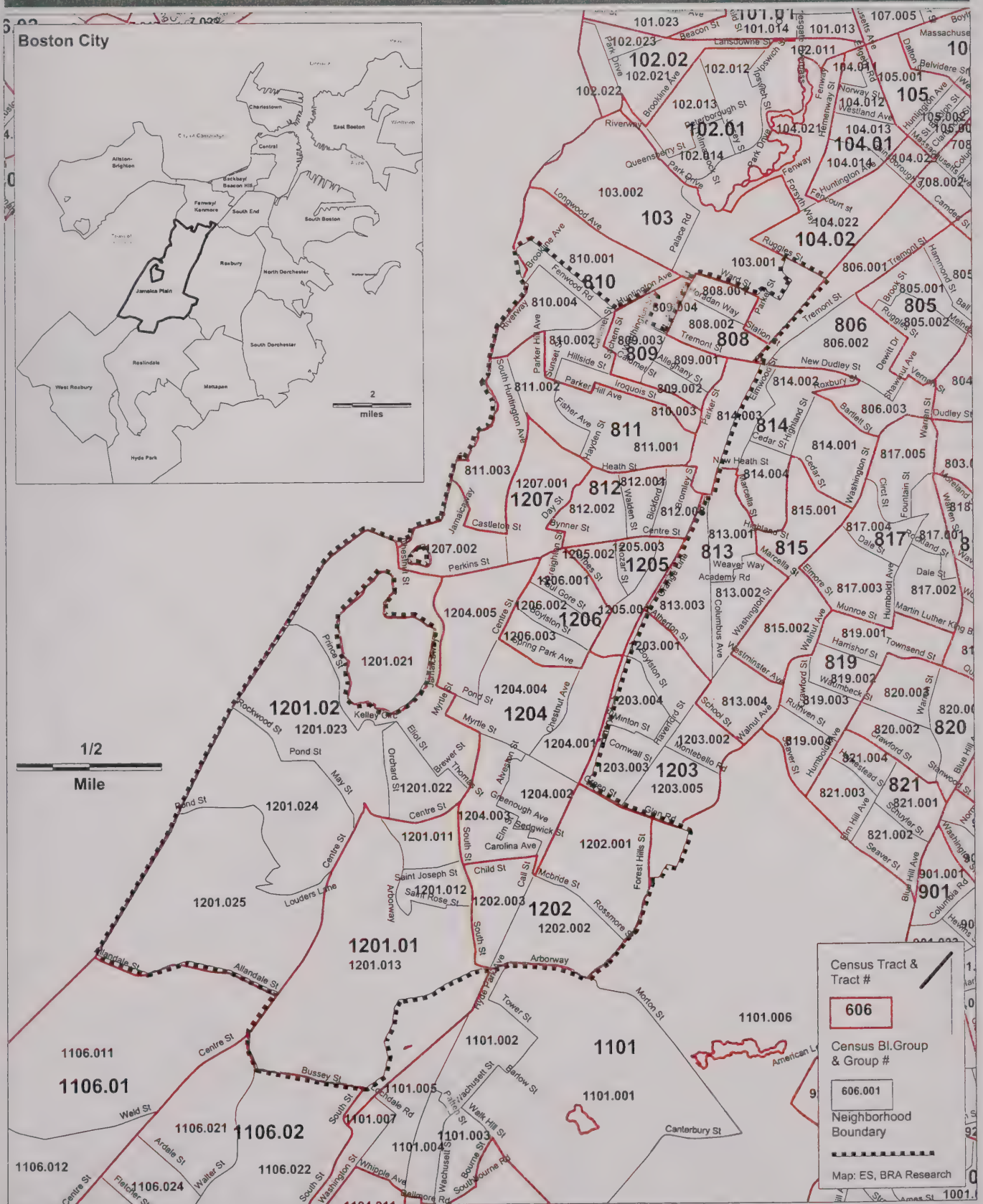


Year 2000 Census Tracts



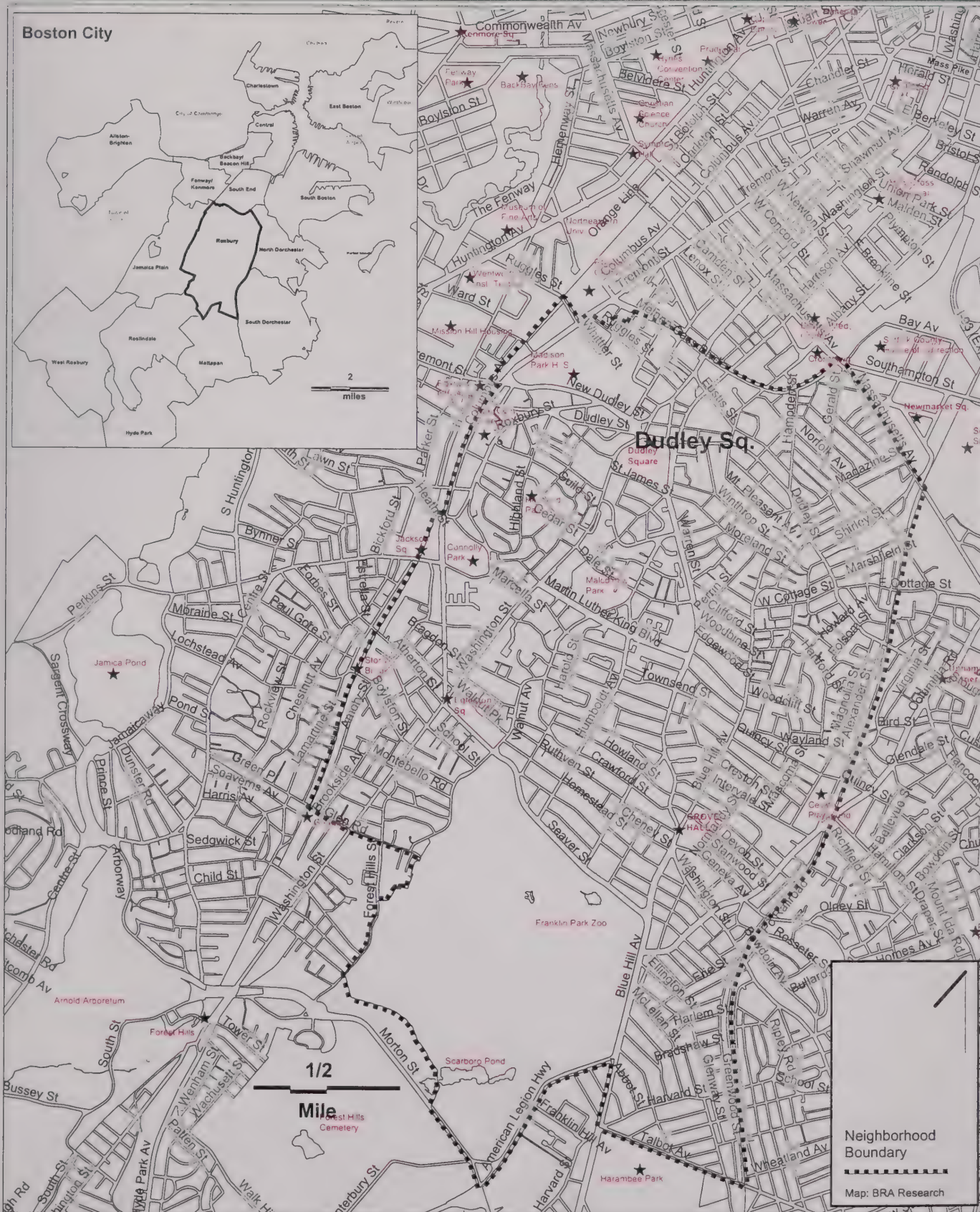
JAMAICA PLAIN

Year 2000 Census Tracts & Block Groups



ROXBURY

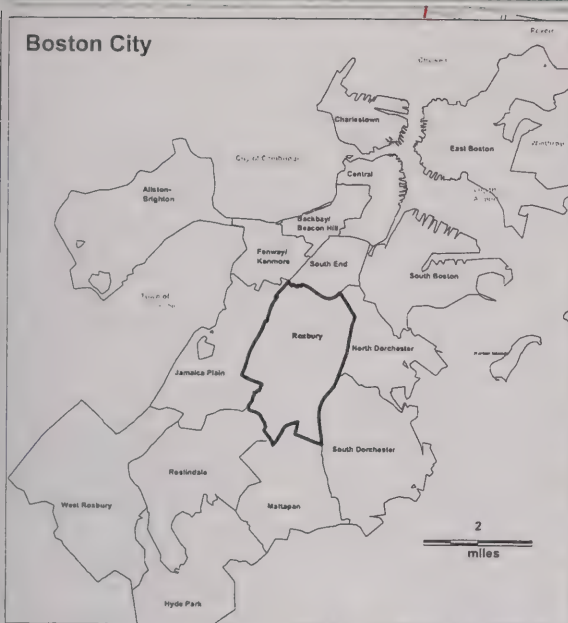
Planning District/Neighborhood Map



ROXBURY

Year 2000 Census Tracts

Boston City



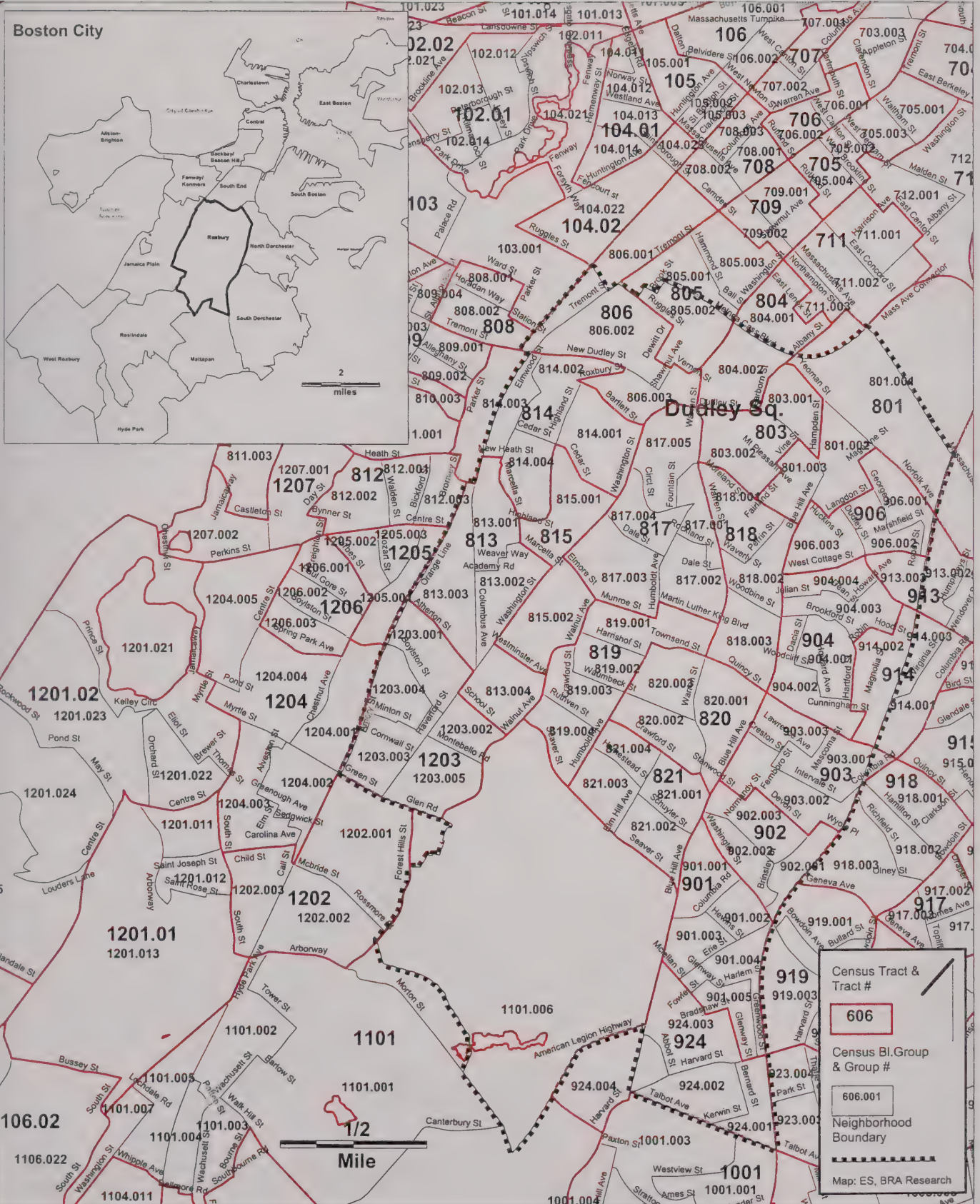
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miles



ROXBURY

Year 2000 Census Tracts & Block Groups

Boston City



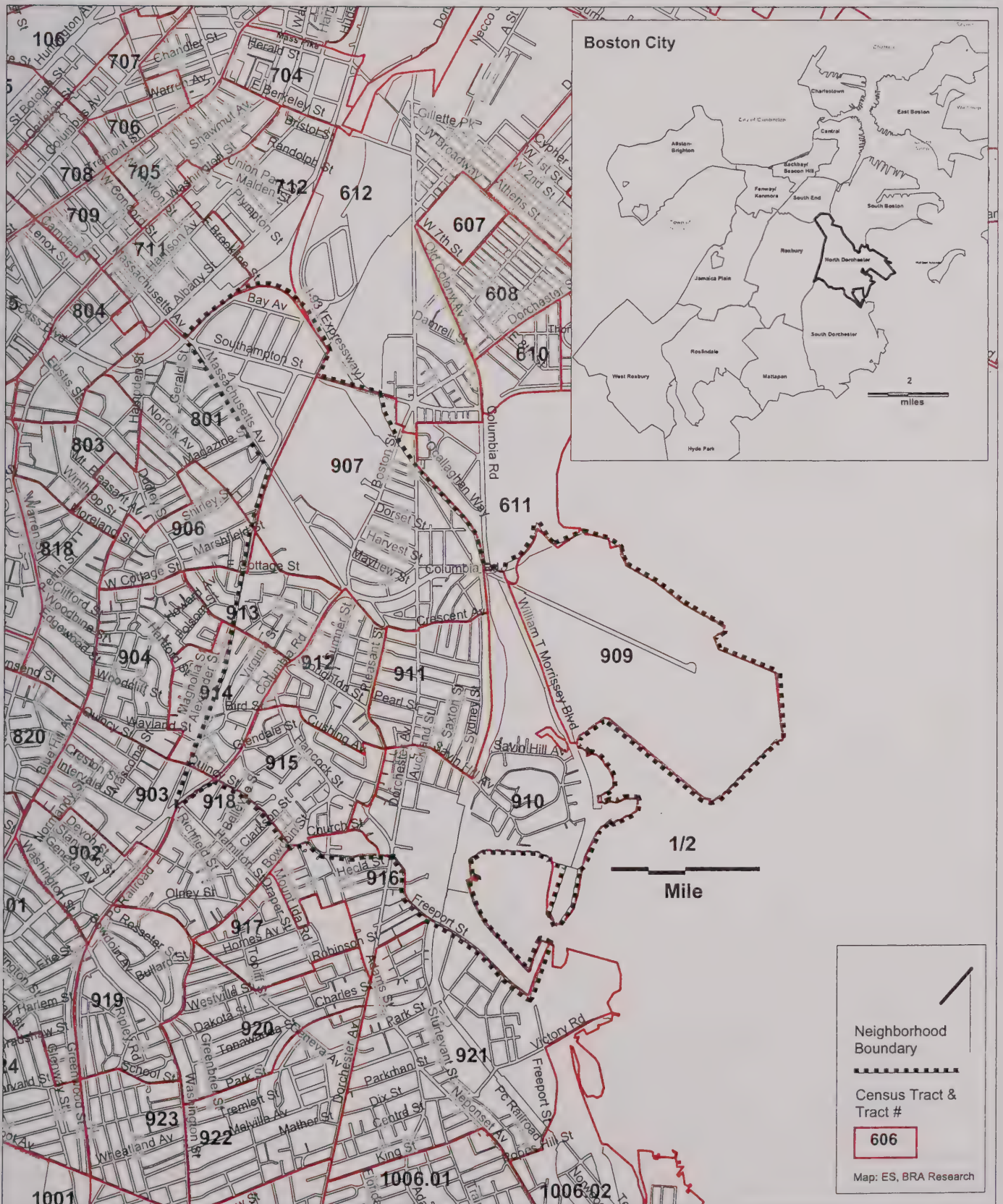
NORTH DORCHESTER

Planning District/Neighborhood Map



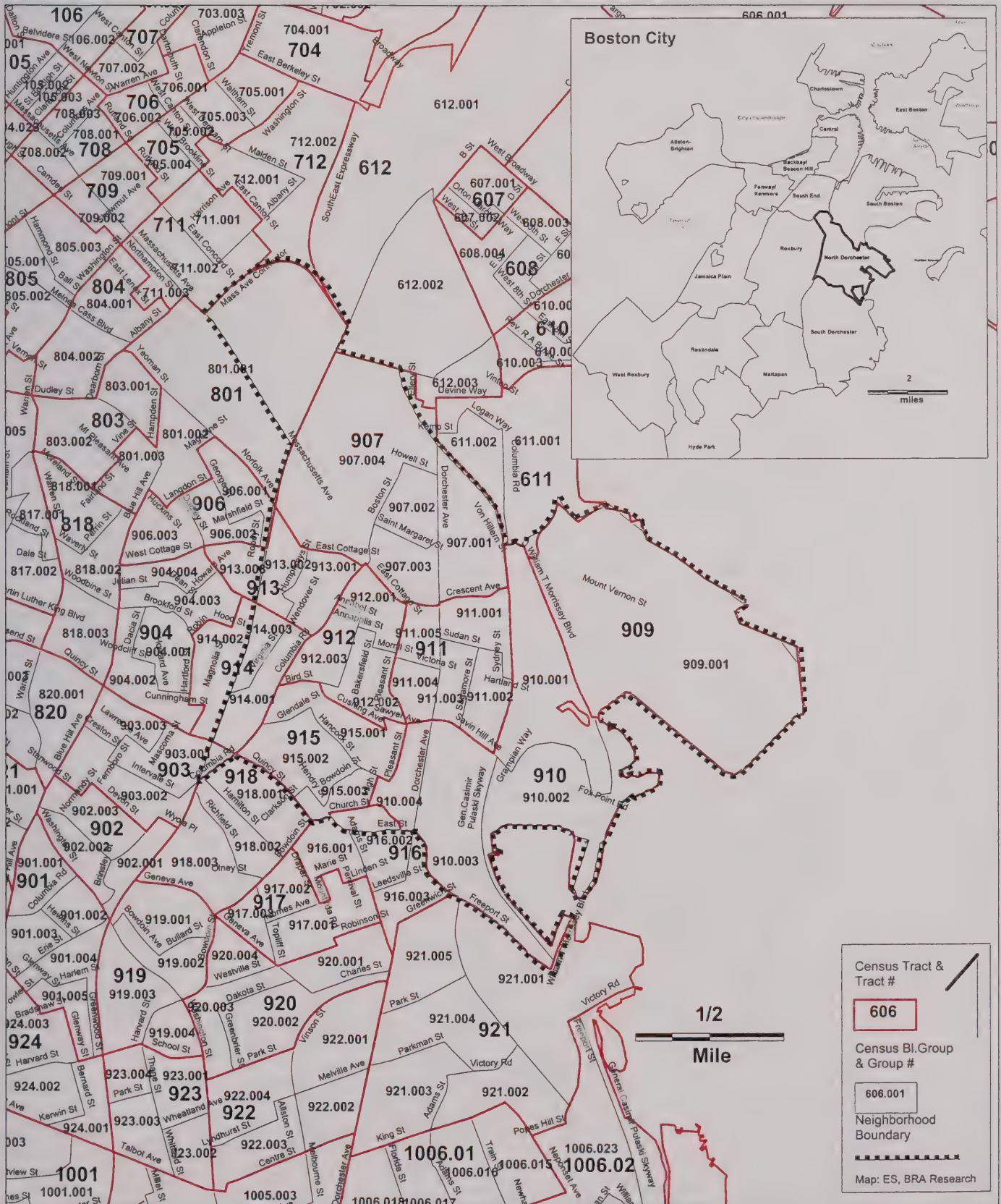
NORTH DORCHESTER

Year 2000 Census Tracts



NORTH DORCHESTER

Year 2000 Census Tracts & Block Groups



SOUTH DORCHESTER

Planning District/Neighborhood Map



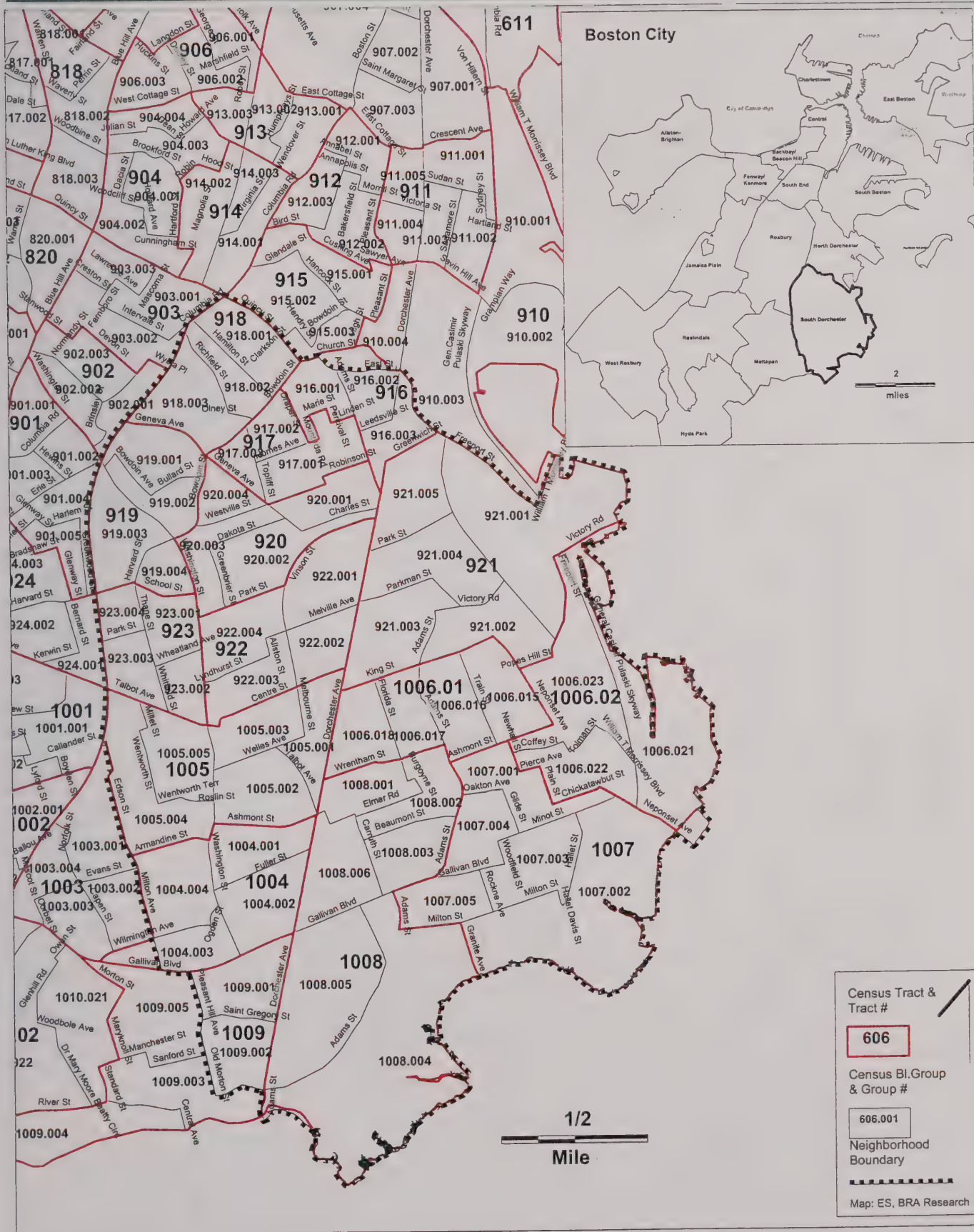
SOUTH DORCHESTER

Year 2000 Census Tracts



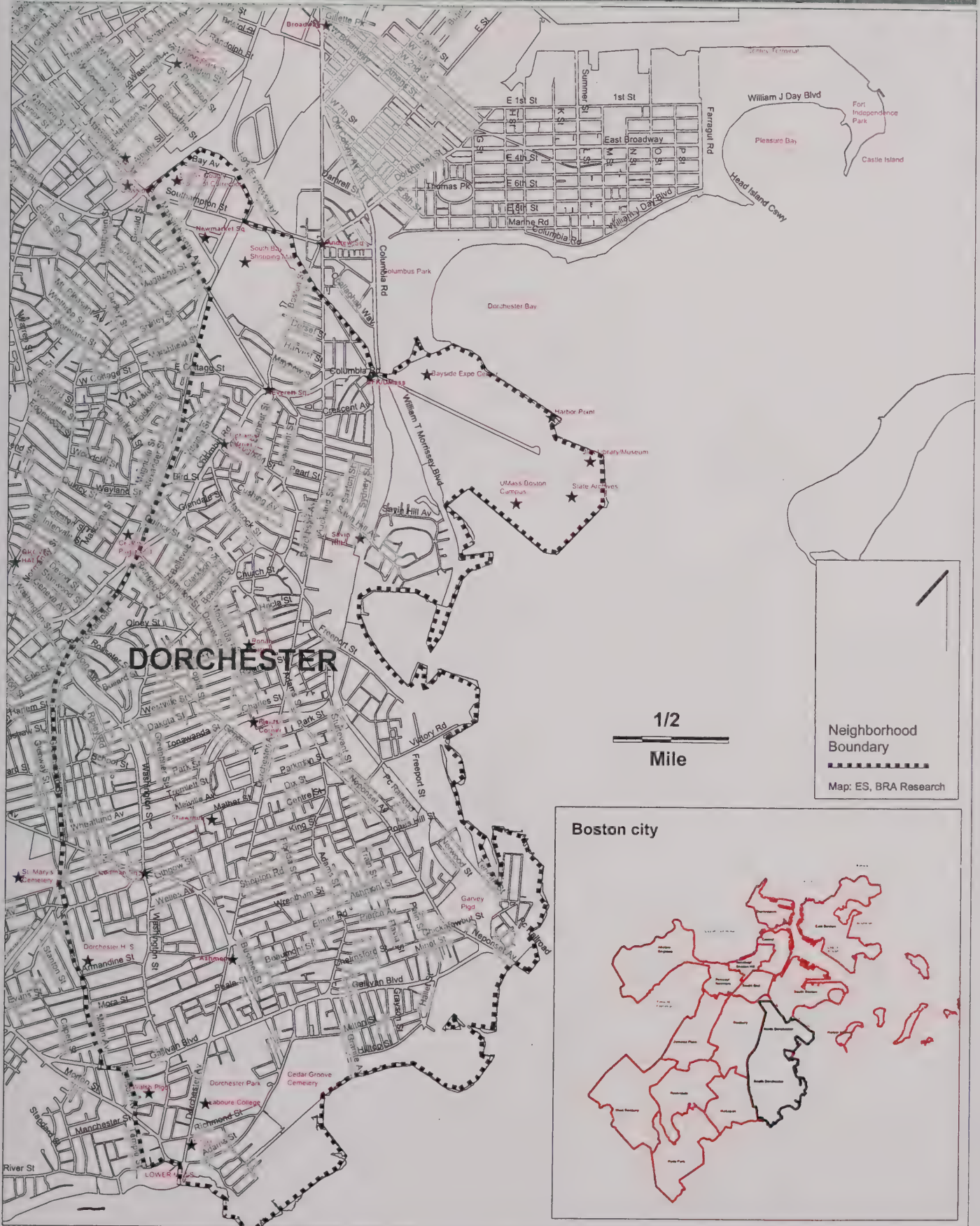
SOUTH DORCHESTER

Year 2000 Census Tracts & Block Groups



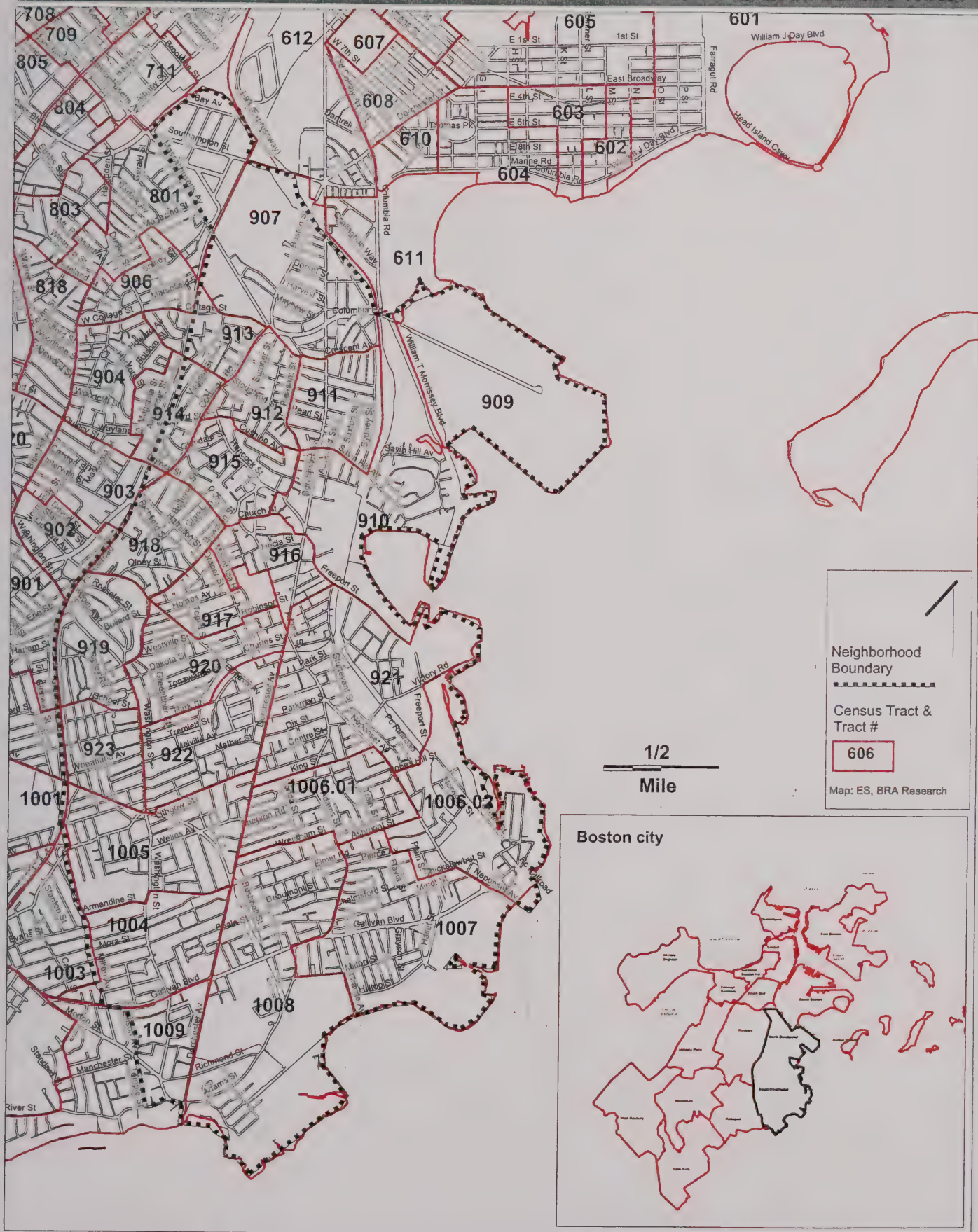
DORCHESTER

Planning District/Neighborhood Map



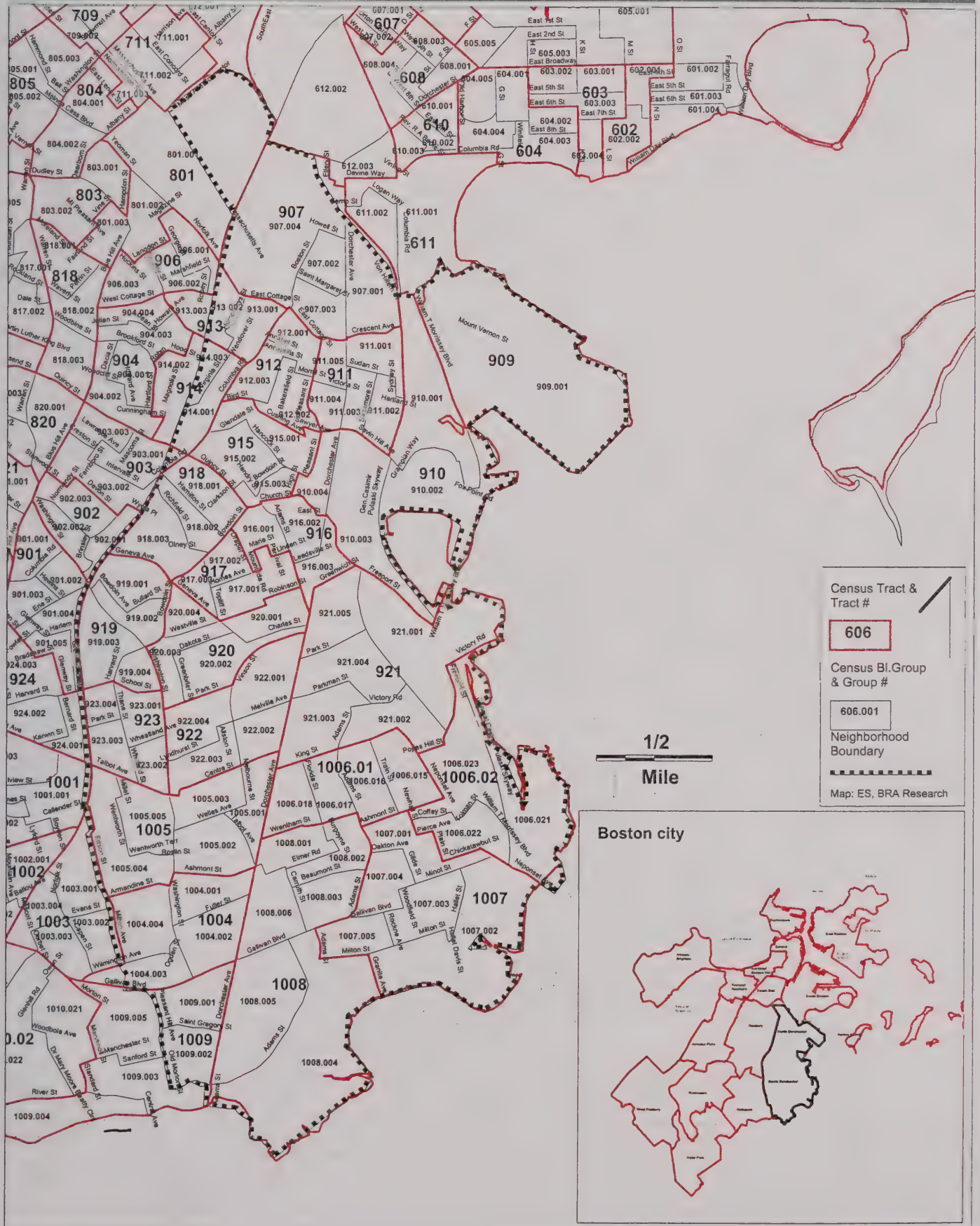
DORCHESTER

Year 2000 Census Tracts



DORCHESTER

Year 2000 Census Tracts & Block Groups



MATTAPAN

Planning District/Neighborhood Map



MATTAPAN

Year 2000 Census Tracts



Year 2000 Census Tracts & Block Groups



ROSLINDALE

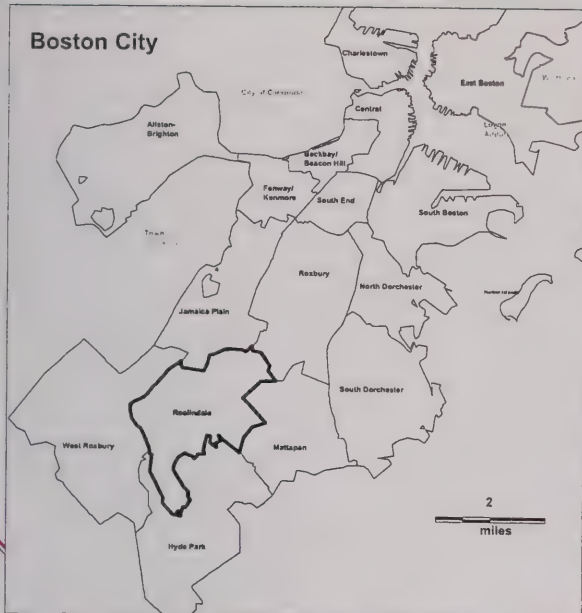
Planning District/Neighborhood Map



ROSLINDALE

Year 2000 Census Tracts

Boston City

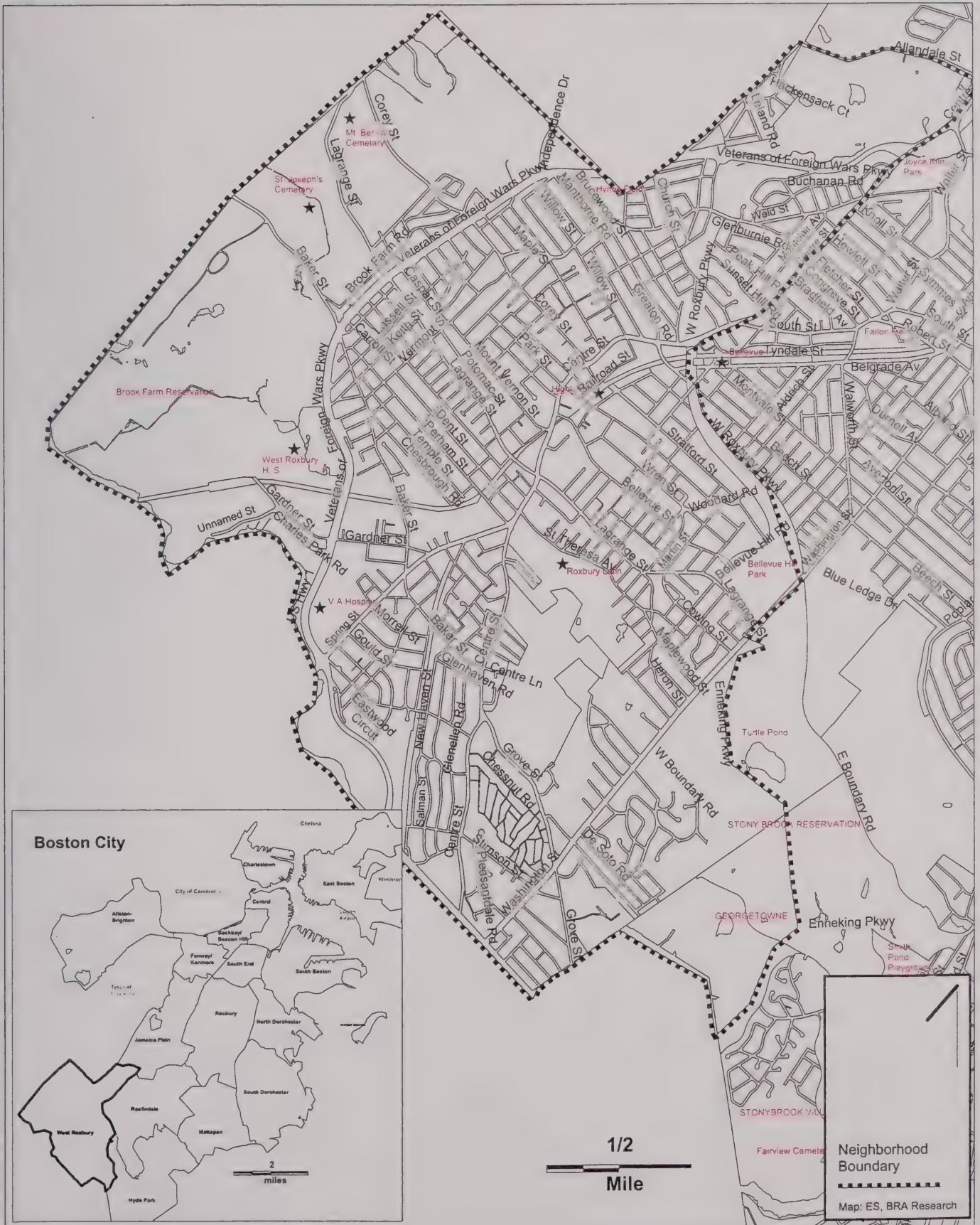


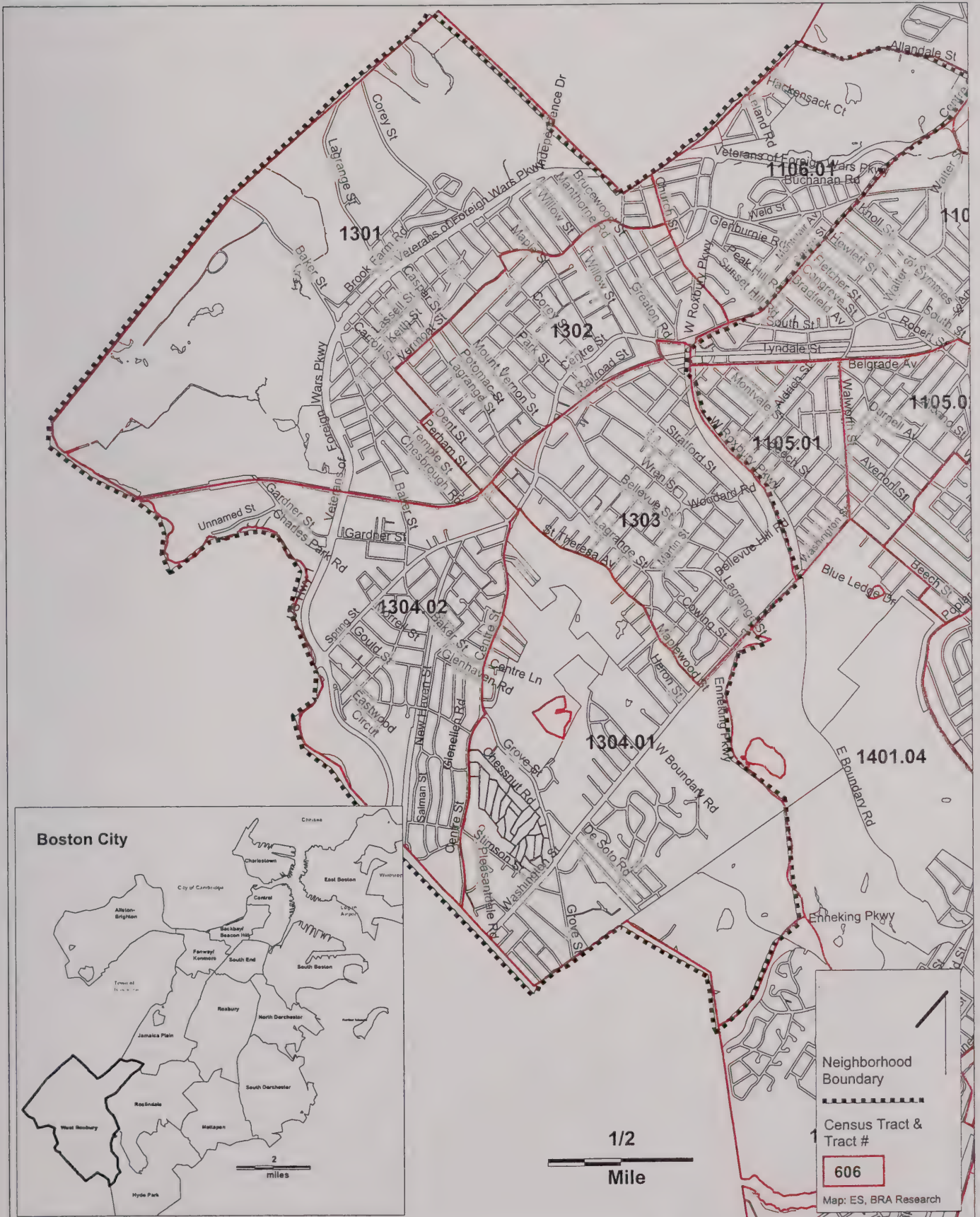
Year 2000 Census Tracts & Block Groups



WEST ROXBURY

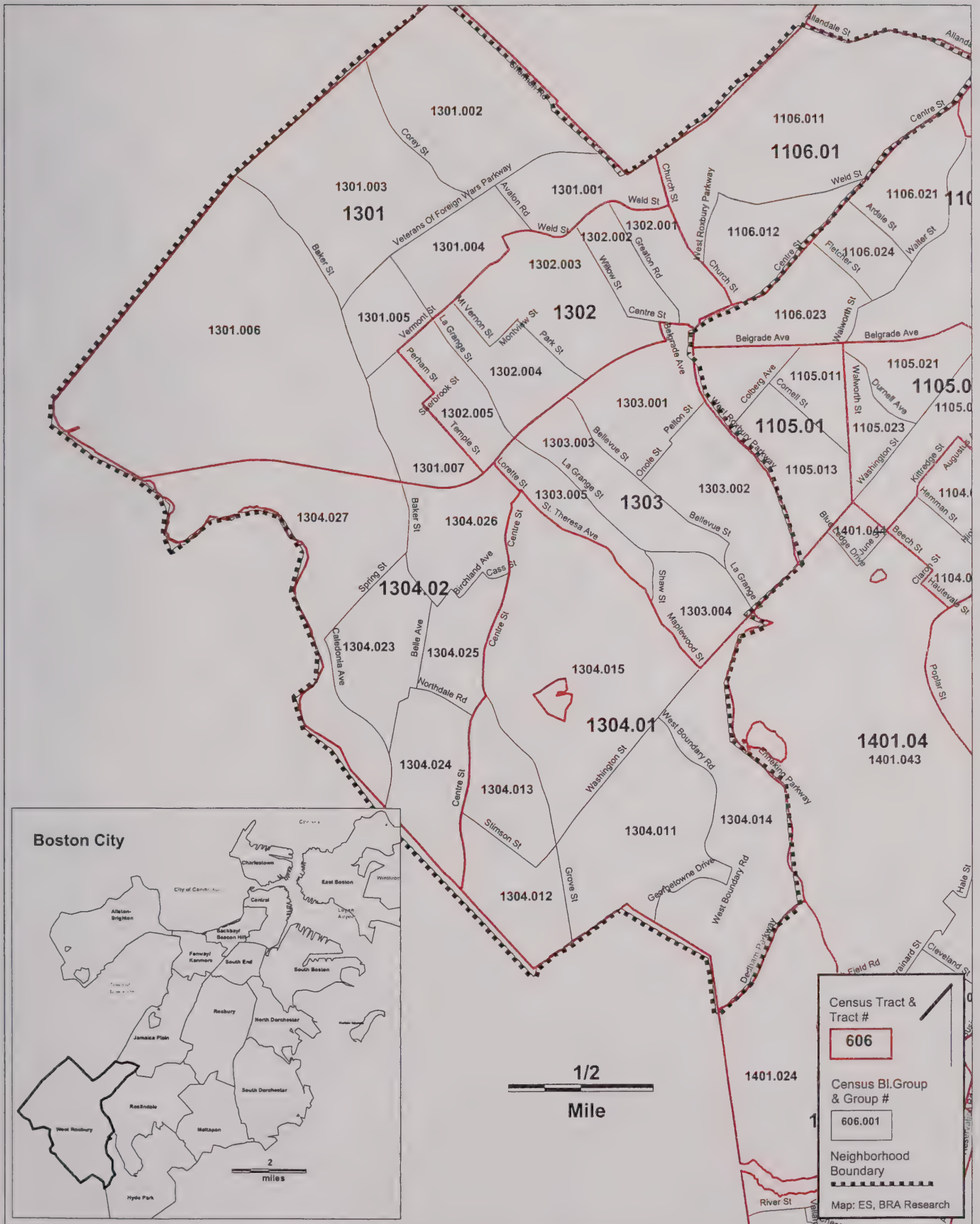
Planning District/Neighborhood Map





WEST ROXBURY

Year 2000 Census Tracts & Block Groups

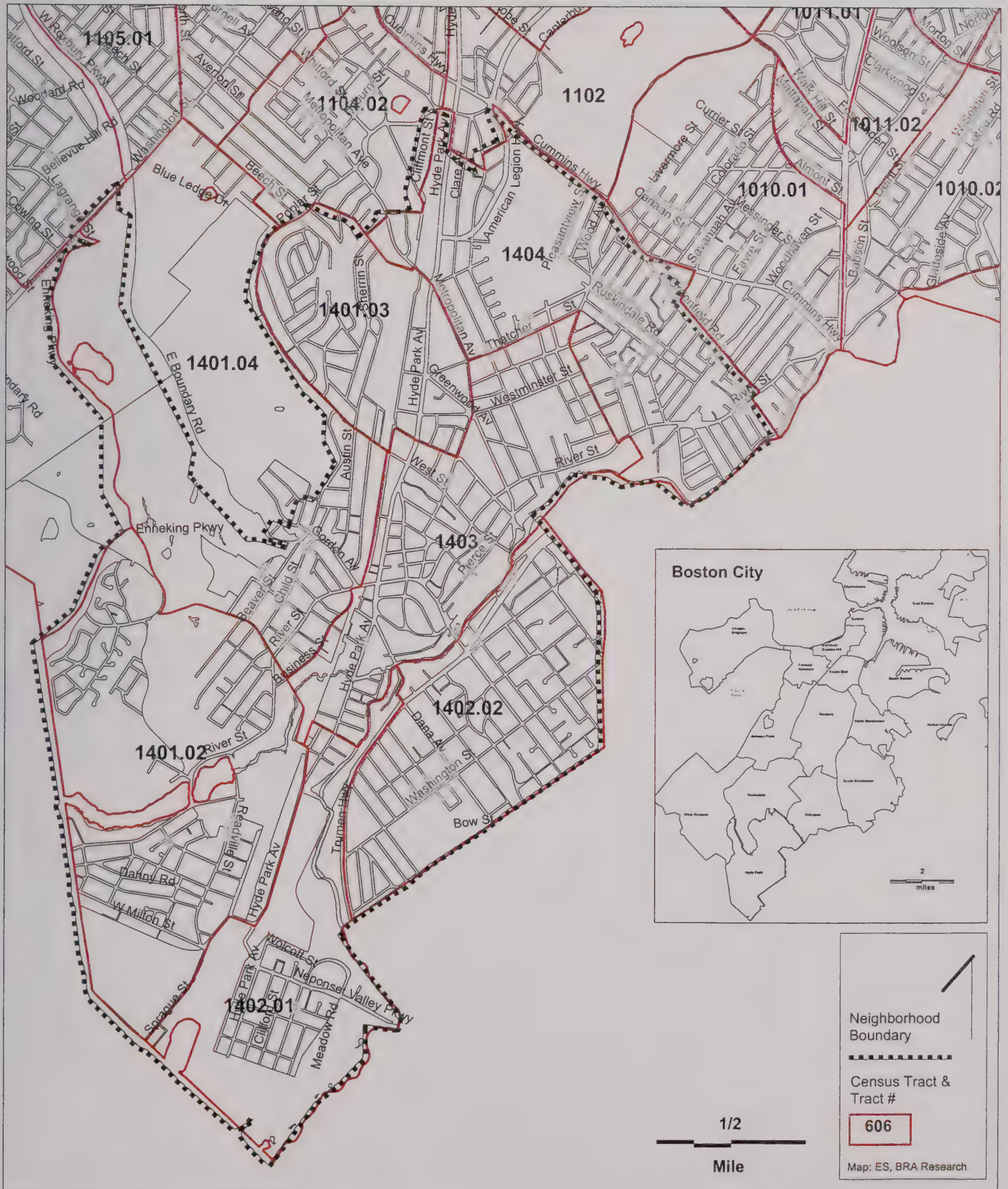


Planning District/Neighborhood Map



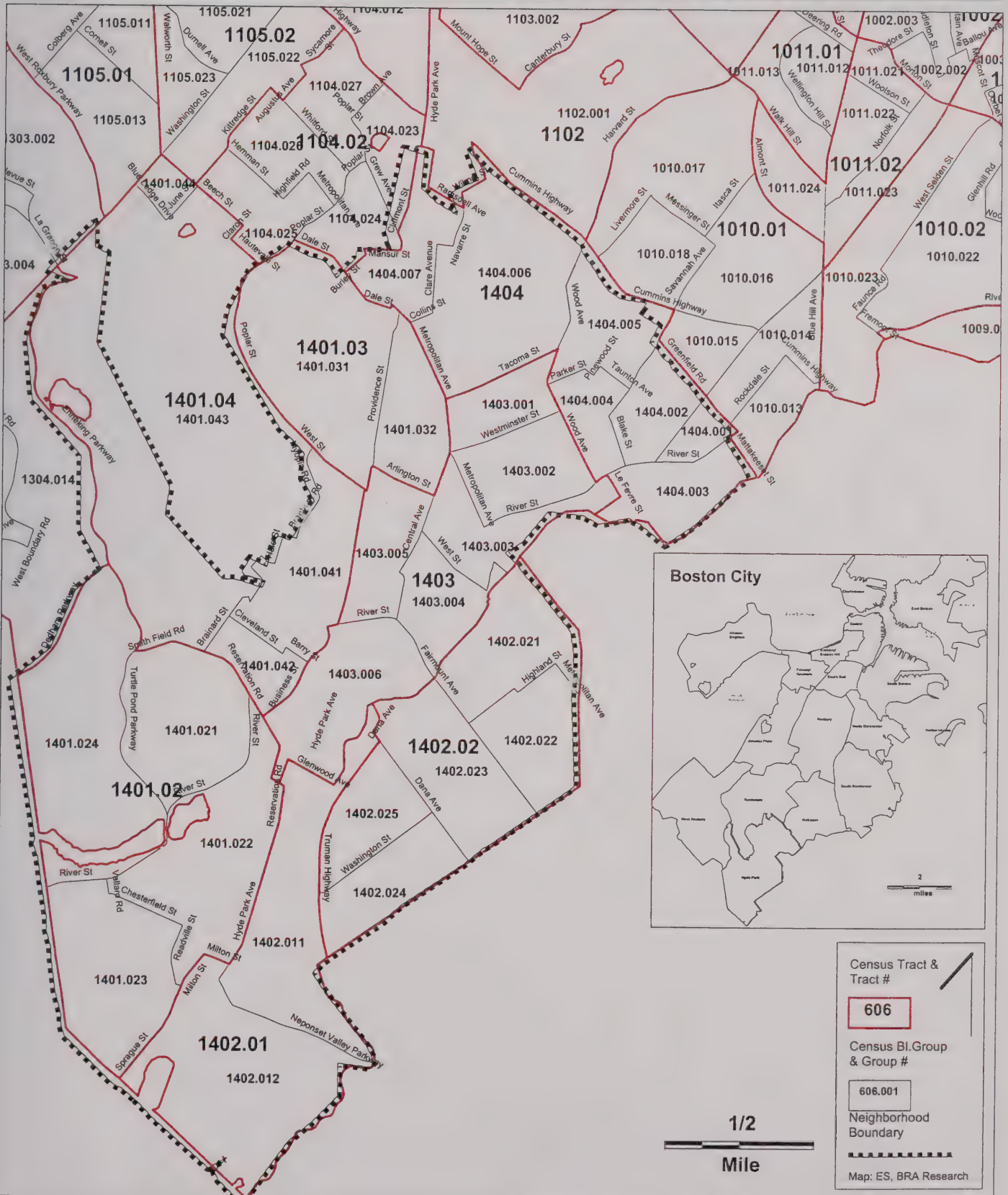
Hyde Park

Year 2000 Census Tracts



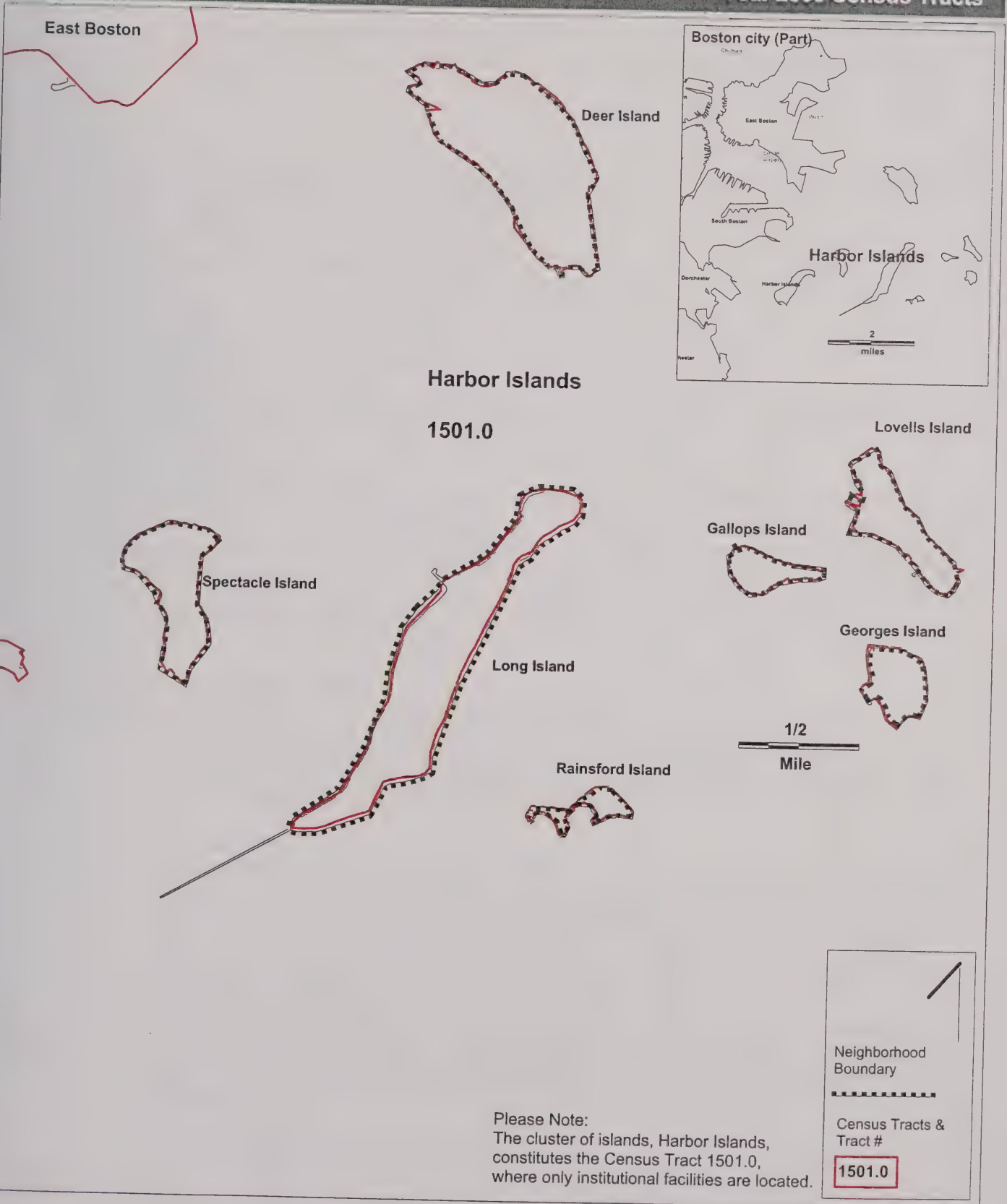
Hyde Park

Year 2000 Census Tracts & Block Groups



HARBOR ISLANDS

Year 2000 Census Tracts



Appendix

Census Geography: A Basic Overview

(Reproduced from American Factfinder: http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html?_lang=en)

For effective use of US census data, it is important to understand the geographic areas and their relationship designed by the US Census Bureau. The primary hierarchy of these areas is three-tiered:

United States -National level data

State -State level data

County -County level data

A county is subdivided into census tracts, which in turn have Block Groups that are clusters of the fundamental unit of census, the block.

Census Tract

A small, relatively permanent statistical subdivision of a county delineated by a local committee of census data users for the purpose of presenting data. Census tract boundaries normally follow visible features, but may follow governmental unit boundaries and other non-visible features in some instances; they always nest within counties. Designed to be relatively homogeneous units with respect to population characteristics, economic status, and living conditions at the time of establishment, census tracts average about 4,000 inhabitants. They may be split by any sub-county geographic entity.

Census Block Group

A subdivision of a census tract (or, prior to 2000, a block numbering area), a block group is the smallest geographic unit for which the Census Bureau tabulates sample data. A block group consists of all the blocks within a census tract with the same beginning number.

Example: block group 3 consists of all blocks within a 2000 census tract numbering from 3000 to 3999. In 1990, block group 3 consisted of all blocks numbered from 301 to 399Z.

Census Block

A subdivision of a census tract (or, prior to 2000, a block numbering area), a block is the smallest geographic unit for which the Census Bureau tabulates 100-percent data. Many blocks correspond to individual city blocks bounded by streets, but blocks — especially in rural areas - may include many square miles and may have some boundaries that are not streets. The Census Bureau established blocks covering the entire nation for the first time in 1990. Previous censuses back to 1940 had blocks established only for part of the nation. Over 8 million blocks are identified for Census 2000.

The Census Bureau established blocks covering the entire nation for the first time in 1990. Previous censuses back to 1940 had blocks established only for part of the nation. Over 8 million blocks are identified for Census 2000. The smallest statistical unit used by the Census Bureau.

Census Data Files

Summary file (SF)

Statistics for a large number of geographic areas that are designed to show great subject matter detail presented in tabular form. There are four main summary files produced from the data collected during Census 2000.

Important points to remember:

- **P.L. 94-171 Data (Public Law 94-171)**

Public Law (P.L.) 94-171, enacted in 1975, directs the Census Bureau to make special preparations to provide redistricting data needed by the fifty states. Within a year following Census Day, the Census Bureau must send the data agreed upon to redraw districts for the state legislature to each state's governor and majority and minority legislative leaders. P.L. 94-171 Data meet this legal requirement that enables participating states to receive data for voting districts (e.g., election precincts, wards, state house and senate districts) in addition to standard census geographic areas such as counties, cities, census tracts, and blocks.

- **Summary File 1 (SF1)**

This file presents 100-percent population and housing figures for the total population, for 63 race categories, and for many other race and Hispanic or Latino categories down to block level. This includes age, sex, households, household relationship, housing units, and tenure (whether the residence is owned or rented).

- **Summary File 2 (SF 2)**

This file presents data similar to the information included in Summary File 1. These data are shown down to the census tract level for 250 race, Hispanic or Latino, and American Indian and Alaska Native tribe categories. For data to be shown in SF 2, a population category must meet a population size threshold of 100 or more people of that specific population category in a specific geographic area.

- **Summary File 3 (sample) data are only available down to block group level**

This file presents data on the population and housing long form subjects such as income and education. It includes population totals for ancestry groups. It also includes selected characteristics for a limited number of race and Hispanic or Latino categories.

- **Summary File 4 (sample) data are only available down to tract level**

This file presents data similar to the information included in Summary File 3. These data are shown down to the census tract level for 336 race, Hispanic or Latino, American Indian and Alaska Native tribe, and ancestry categories. For data to be shown in SF 4, there must be at least 50 unweighted sample cases of a specific population category in a specific geographic area.

The above files are presented in datasets under the following categories of tables:

Quick Tables (Tables with prefix QT)- Predefined tables with frequently requested information for a single geographic area.

Demographic Profiles (Tables with prefix DP) are Quick Tables that contain the most frequently requested demographic, social, economic, and housing data. For Census 2000, there are four profiles covering general, social, economic, and housing characteristics.

Geographic Comparison Tables (Tables with prefix GCT) - Tables containing a small number of population or housing characteristics for a group of related geographic areas (e.g., all counties in a state or all census tracts in a county).

Detailed Tables (Tables with prefix P, PCT, H or HCT) - Tables from data sets (also called summary files) that provide the most detailed data on all topics and geographic areas from the decennial censuses.

Other geographic categories include:

Incorporated Places

-Cities, towns, and villages

Census Designated place (CDP)

CDP is the abbreviation for Census designated place, a statistical entity defined for each decennial census according to Census Bureau guidelines, comprising a densely settled concentration of population that is not within an incorporated place, but is locally identified by a name. CDPs are delineated cooperatively by state and local officials and the Census Bureau, following Census Bureau guidelines. Beginning with Census 2000 there are no size limits.

Place

A concentration of population either legally bounded as an incorporated place, or identified as a Census Designated Place (CDP) including comunidades and zonas urbanas in Puerto Rico. Incorporated places have legal descriptions of borough (except in Alaska and New York), city, town (except in New England, New York, and Wisconsin), or village.

Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA)

A geographic entity defined by the federal Office of Management and Budget for use by federal statistical agencies, based on the concept of a core area with a large population nucleus, plus adjacent communities having a high degree of economic and social integration with that core. Qualification of an MSA requires the presence of a city with 50,000 or more inhabitants, or the presence of an Urbanized Area (UA) and a total population of at least 100,000 (75,000 in New England). The county or counties containing the largest city and surrounding densely settled territory are central counties of the MSA. Additional outlying counties qualify to be included in the MSA by meeting certain other criteria of metropolitan character, such as a specified minimum population density or percentage of the population that is urban. MSAs in New England are defined in terms of minor civil divisions, following rules concerning commuting and population density.

Primary metropolitan statistical area (PMSA)

A geographic entity defined by the federal Office of Management and Budget for use by federal statistical agencies. If an area meets the requirements to qualify as a metropolitan statistical area and has a population of one million or more, two or more PMSAs may be defined within it if statistical criteria are met and local opinion is in favor. A PMSA consists of one or more counties (county subdivisions in New England) that have substantial commuting interchange. When two or more PMSAs have been recognized, the larger area of which they are components then is designated a consolidated metropolitan statistical area.

Consolidated metropolitan statistical area (CMSA)

A geographic entity defined by the federal Office of Management and Budget for use by federal statistical agencies. An area becomes a CMSA if it meets the requirements to qualify as a metropolitan statistical area, has a population of 1,000,000 or more, if component parts are recognized as primary metropolitan statistical areas, and local opinion favors the designation.

ZIP Code Tabulation Area (ZCTA)

A ZIP Code Tabulation Area is a geographic area that approximates the delivery area for a five-digit or a three-digit ZIP Code. ZCTAs do not precisely depict the area within which mail deliveries associated with that ZIP Code occur. A five-digit ZCTA ending in "HH" (e.g., "006HH") represents the water area within a three-digit ZCTA that is not associated with any mail delivery route. A five-digit ZCTA ending in "XX" (e.g., "006XX") represents the land area within a three-digit ZCTA that is not associated with any mail delivery route.

Last Page

Boston Redevelopment Authority
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Boston MA 02201-1007

web site: <http://www.cityofboston.gov/bra/pdr/pdr.asp>
email: infoboston@cityofboston.gov/bra
Phone: 617-722-4300
Fax: 617-918-4461

Research Department
Alvaro Lima, Director
February 2005

Report #600
